

19774

Minutes of the
evidence taken at
the trial of
Warren Hastings
Appendix

19774



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A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

fullest Consideration, we have agreed to sundry distinct Resolutions upon the general Subject of them; a Copy of which we transmit to you for your Authority and Guidance.

At the same Time that we refer you to these for our Reply to your Letter, we must request that you will attend particularly to the following Explanation of the Circumstances and Considerations on which they have been formed.

We have supposed, that your Intentions were to act in concert with the Maratta Government; to assist in composing its intestine Divisions, at the particular Solicitation of its chief Minister; and by Means of such a Policy, to prevent the Growth of an Influence dangerous to the Company's Interests; to defeat the Intentions of a Party adverse to the Company, and to promote the Security of the Company's Possessions. In this View, we give our Assent and Sanction to the Plan which you propose to engage in; making it an express Condition of our Concurrence, that you restrict your Operations merely to the Objects so required and defined; and that you withdraw your Forces as soon as these shall be fully accomplished.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
2d February 1778.

N° 29.

Read the Governor General's Proposition contained in his Opinion on the 8th Question.

Mr. Wheler—If the Board are determined to send Troops to Bombay, I agree, that it will be highly proper to consult the General upon the Subject; but I abide by my former Opinion of the Impropriety of that Measure.

Mr. Francis—I yield to the Governor General's Proposal as a Consequence of a Resolution already taken; but I must desire it to be understood, that I shall not deem myself bound by the Answer to the Enquiry, disapproving totally of the Resolution itself.

Mr. Barwell agrees to the Reference.

Resolved accordingly.

The Governor General—I further propose, That the Sentiments of the Commander in Chief be taken upon the Propriety of augmenting the Sepoy Establishment, by new Levies of Thirty Private to each Company of Sepoys, and making the Strength of each Battalion One thousand Men compleat: In this Case our Force will not be diminished by any Drafts that may be made for the Service of Bombay.

Mr. Wheler agrees.

Mr. Francis—if any Force should be sent from hence to Bombay, I conclude it will be necessary to replace it by new Levies here; but this is an additional Reason with me for disapproving of the Measure.

Mr. Barwell agrees.

Resolved, That the Sentiments of the Commander in Chief be taken upon the Propriety of augmenting the Sepoy Establishment by New Levies of Thirty Private to each Company, and making the Strength of each Battalion One thousand Men compleat.

Mr. Francis—Setting aside all other Considerations but those of Policy and Expediency, I conceive, That the Resolution of the Presidency of Bombay, to carry Ragoba to Poona, cannot be justified on any Principle whatever, but that of the Probability of their carrying it into Execution instanter, or by a Surprize. Their actual Force is not equal to a regular Series of Military Operations, or to contend with a well-concerted Resistance; when their Force was entire under Colonel Keating, they were unable to make any Impression on the Army opposite to them: But a Resolution to assist them with Money, and still more with a Body of Troops from hence, which cannot arrive at Bonibay till several Months after the Commencement of Hostilities, suppose the Continuance of a War for an indefinite Time, and to an unlimited Extent. It is in vain for us to say, that we consent to the Enterprize under such and such particular Limitations: When once we are engaged in it, we can no longer command the Event, nor determine how far it will lead us, or at what Point we shall stop. For this Reason, in Addition to those I have already stated, I dissent from and protest against the Resolutions taken this Day, and all the Consequences that may attend them.

Governor General—I must beg Mr. Francis's Permission to ask, Whether he means by this Dissent and Protest, and by the Answers which he has delivered to the Two last Questions proposed by me on the last Council Day, to declare against affording any Kind of Assistance to the Presidency of Bombay, if they should be actually engaged in a War?

However we may differ in our Opinions of the past Conduct of that Presidency, I would hope, that we shall be at least unanimous in our Resolutions to support them; which will be to support the Company's and the National Interests committed to their Charge, in the case of a War.

Reason only I propose the Question.

Mr. Francis—My Dissent and Protest are meant to be applied generally to all the Resolutions taken this Day on the Question now stated to me by the Governor. I have already declared my Dissent explicitly, in the Minute which I had the Honour of laying before the Board on Friday last, on the War and Embarrassing Question, and not to be decided on any Principles, however just or reasonable.

APPENDIX N D I X, N₂, N₂O, and O₂).

Facts, which we cannot alter or resist, may force us into Measures against our most delusive Opponents. Defence is the only Object for which I would assist the Presidency of Bombay; and when I know with Certainty, that they have engaged in Measures of an offensive Nature against the Maratha State, my Opinion will be, that we should command and require them to withdraw from their Measures, and return to the Defence of their own Territories. I cannot give a more precise or determinate Answer to a Question, which in its Nature must in some Degree be subject to Events.

Governor General—I beg Mr. Francis will believe that I had no Intention to embarrass him by the Question which I have proposed. I expected the Answer which he has given to it, but chose rather to propose the Question in Form, than either to leave his Intentions doubtful, as they would have appeared from the Minute recorded in this Day's Proceeding, or to appear to impute to the said Sir J. F. consistency with his former Declaration, by referring to it.

As Mr. Wheler in his Answer to the Second Question, seems to doubt the Reality of the Designs of the French, as they are represented by the President and Council of Lombay, I request that the following Extracts of our Persian Correspondence may be entered in this Place, and that Mr. Elliot's Letter, which was addressed to the Board on the 11th of October last, may be annexed to them; as I think it now, whatever it might have been before, of no Consequence to withhold it from a Place in our Records. These Evidences, the first of which have not I believe been seen by Mr. Wheler, will I think remove every Doubt of the Existence of such a Design, and of its having been carried into Execution, so far as it could have been effected by the avowed Delivery of the Credentials received by the French Agent from the Court of France, and by the written Engagements affirmed to have been executed between him and one of the Ministers.

Mr. Wheeler—I do not recollect that I implied any such Doubt of the Intention of the French Interference in my Minute. I have it is true endeavoured to make it appear that our immediate fears cannot arise from any such Apprehensions from the French; as it is laid, before they can carry Designs into Execution, they have dispatched Monsieur de Sauty with Credentials to the French Ministry.

The Governor General—Mr. Wheler's Explanation is perfectly consistent with the Words of his Minute; but as I think the Danger which may arise from the French Intrigues at Poona has not been sufficiently understood, and as these form the principal Grounds for the supposed Resolutions of the President and Council of Bombay, I still desire that the Papers above mentioned may be recorded in this Day's Consultation.

From Row Jee to the Nabob Wallah Jah, dated the 13th May 1777.

I some Time ago transmitted to the Presence Two Papers of Intelligence; the former written on the 1st of Rabbe-ul-awul (11th of April) the latter the 19th of the same Month (29th of April): These you have doubtless received, and have communicated the Contents to his Highness. The Particulars relative to the French Sirdar are these: Mr. Chevalier, with a Train consisting of an Elephant and Standard, and Seven Gentlemen in Palankeens, came to Durky, where he remained Ten Days waiting for his Things to come up. On the 24th of Rabbe-ul-awul (1st May) he set out from thence, and travelled to Bhaoury: Bheem Row Paula went on the Part of Sciemunt Pundit Purdaun to meet him. On the 25th Siecaran Pundit and Nanna Purnavee went to the Encampment under the Walls of the Fort, where the French Chief was introduced to them: He had not brought his Presents with him. After the Ceremony of the Introduction was over he retied with Siecaran Pundit, Nanna Purnavee, Madho Row Sadathao, Kishen Row Belal, Boosila's Vackel, and Congee the Interpreter, and produced a Letter from the Prime Minister of the King of France, addresed to Sciemunt Pundit Purdaun. As there was no Frenchman belonging to the Sircar to read it, Mr. Chevalier read it himself, and the Interpreter explained it: The Substance was, that "from Time immemorial Friendship and Harmony had subsisted between the Two State, which it was expedient to preserve in Time to come, and that Mr. Chevalier would personally explain all further Particulars." The Ministers enquired after Mr. Buffoy, and were informed by Mr. Chevalier that he was in Health, and employed in an eminent Station about the Prime Minister, and that he had desired his Compliments to Ranichunder Jadoo Row. They then enquired if the French and English were Friends, or otherwise; to which Mr. Chevalier answered, that they were at present Friends, and that the French were not at Variance with any Power whatever. This was all that passed in the First Meeting; after which he took his Leave and retired. Provision for 200 Men, Provender, &c. are daily supplied by the Sircar Mulhar Pundit Muttaluddy; and 20 Huncarrabs are appointed to attend on Mr. Chevalier, and procure for him whatever he wants. On the last of Rabbe ul-awul (9th May) Mr. Chevalier was desired to attend at the aforesaid Encampment, to be introduced to Sciemunt Pundit Purdaun: There was nobody of Consequence present at the Interview except Sciemunt Pundit and the Two Ministers. Mr. Chevalier presented Five Paintings on Glats, a Cup, a Gun, a Pair of Pistols, and a Glats by which Poison might be discovered. After some Minutes spent in Professions of Friendship, Mr. Chevalier presented a Letter from the French King, addresed to Sciemunt Pundit: I have not yet been able to learn the Contents of it; as soon as I do I shall inform his Highness. After receiving the Letter, Sciemunt took Leave of Mr. Chevalier and returned to the fort; Mr. Chevalier remained in private with the Two Ministers and the Interpreter. Siecaran then desired him to communicate what he had to say; to which he replied, "I have a great Variety of Matter to treat of, which I will fully explain at a convenient time." Siecaran Pundit then said, "I will appoint

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

some Person to negotiate your Business for you; it must be a Person who is well versed in your Affairs. I know of no one qualified for this Purpose except Madho Row Sadashas." Mr. Chevalier not relishing this Proposal made answer, " He is employed in the Negotiations, with the English, how is it possible we should unite?" Sicaram replied, " Be under no kind of Apprehensions on this Account; in like Manner as I am to alto is he, a Muttafeddy of the Sircar: All Negotiations are conducted through Muttafeddies; but I act in such Manner as I think right." Mr. Chevalier made no Reply, but retired. Sicaram Pundit then went to Shafhoore to a Wedding; Anna Purnaveesé is also going to Poona, where he will stay Ten Days or a Fortnight: This of course occasions a Delay in the Negotiations of the French, which I understand will be concluded on their return. Madho Row is under great Perplexity; not knowing his Highness's Pleasure in this Matter, he is at a Loss what Steps to take. I have addressed frequent Arzees to you in the Course of the last Month relative to the French, which you have doubtless fully explained to his Highness: I am astonished that I have not yet been honoured with a Line in Answer thereto. It is now necessary that you communicate the above Particulars relative to Mr. Chevalier to his Highness, and write me a full and explicit Answer; and also inform me what Conduct I am to observe here, that I may accordingly satisfy Madho Row. The French have till now remained perfectly quiet, but it appears from their late Measures that they design to enter again into the Affairs of this Part; I have therefore sent repeated Expresses to the Presence. Having made yourself acquainted with his Highness's Pleasure, write me fully on the Subject.

From the Nabob Wallah Jee to Row Tie; dated the 6th June 1777.

I understand from your Letter written the 3d Rabeassanie (13th May) to Sheeh Row, that one Monsieur Chevalier, a Frenchman, is arrived in those Parts, under the Pretence of having come from Europe on an Embassy to Row Pundit Purdaun, and that on this News a Man of Rank went from Row Pundit Purdaun, met, and conducted him to the Presence of the principal Ministers, who received him with every Mark of Friendship, gave ear to the Representations of that Impostor, which he himself had fabricated, and then produced as coming from the Prime Minister of France; and that Madho Row Sadashae conceived that a Connexion between him and the Ministers must give Offence to the English Chiefs. The History of this Frenchman is this; he was formerly in the Service of Hyder Ally Khan, and after waiting some Time for an Opportunity of quarrelling with him, he deserted him with a Party of Fugitives, and continued for a long Space of Time to wander in those Parts. Monsieur Bellcombe, who is lately arrived from Europe in the Station of Governor of Pondicherry, has not the least Knowledge of him, but says that he invents these Impostions to procure himself a Support in the different Places to which he wanders. As the firmest Friendship has subsisted for Three Generations between my Family and that of Row Pundit Purdaun, I desire you will represent to Madho Row Sadashae, that since Friendship and Union has been firmly established by Treaty between Row Pundit Purdaun and the English, the Fame of whose good Faith and Steadiness is every where spread, and whose Constancy in Friendship is become a Proverb throughout the World; and since the Governor General of Bengal, who is the absolute Representative of the English Nation in this Country, is the Author of this Treaty, it is necessary that he should reflect how highly displeasing the Encouragement of this Impostor of another Nation must be to the English; that it is therefore incumbent on him (as a Man of Wisdom, Penetration, and Fidelity to Row Pundit Purdaun, and as he was employed, on Colonel Upton's Arrival at Poona, on the Part of the Governor General of Bengal, as the Channel of that Negotiation) to paint to the Ministers of Row Pundit Purdaun, in the strongest Colours, the Impropriety of shewing any Countenance to such an Impostor, and to persuade them ever to preserve with the greatest Care the Friendship of the English, which is of the greatest Value.

Extract of a Letter from Sicaram Pundit to Colonel Upton.

Monsieur Chevalier de St. Lubin, on the Part of the King of France, lately arrived on board a Ship on this Coast, and landed on Rio-Dunda, belonging to this Government, from whence he transmitted a Letter to the Presence of Seremunt Row, Sahib Row Pundit Purdaun, containing a Request of an Audience to treat with him, which if granted he would wait on him, and fully explain to him the Subjects of his Mission. As Friendship had subsisted from Time immemorial between the French Nation and the illustrious Family of Seremunt Sahib, and moreover as Hospitality is due to the Envoy of a great Prince, an Order for his Approach was sent from the Presence. When the aforesaid Gentleman arrives the Subjects of his Negotiation will be explained. The Governor and Council of Bombay will represent this Matter to the Supreme Council of Calcutta in an injurious light; I have therefore written you and the Supreme Council the Relation of what has really passed. Friendship is now established between us, which shall never be interrupted in the smallest Degree. Do you my Friend amply represent all the Particulars to the Governor and Council.

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

Extract of a Letter from Siccaram Pundit ; received the 17th July 1777.

Monsieur the Chevalier de St. Lubin, on the Part of the King of France, lately arrived on board a Ship on this Coast, and landed at Rio Dunda, belonging to this Government ; from whence he transmitted a Letter to Seremunt Row, Sahib Row Pundit Pudhaun, containing a Request of an Audience to treat with him, which if granted he would wait on him, and fully explain to him the Subjects of his Mission. As Friendship has subsisted from Time immemorial between the French Nation and the illustrious Family of Seremunt Sahib, and moreover in Compliance with the Duties of Hospitality, an Order for his Approach was sent from the Presence. When the aforesaid Gentleman arrives, the Subjects of his Negotiation will be explained.

The Governor and Council of Bombay will represent this Matter to you in an injurious Light, foreseeing which, and possessing the most sincere Friendship towards you, I have given you Intelligence of this Gentleman's Arrival, and what has actually passed. No Interruption shall ever proceed from this Sircar, of the Friendship which has been so firmly established between us.

From the Nabob Wailab Jaf, 3d September.

I sometime ago sent you for your Information a News-paper from Poona, containing an Account of the Arrival of Monsieur Le Chevalier, a Frenchman, at that Place ; and at the same Time transmitted you a Copy of a Letter which I wrote to Row Jee, my News-writer, to exert his utmost Endeavours to prevent the Poona Chief giving Countenance to such a Cheat and Impostor. I now enclose you an Answer from the aforesaid News-writer, addressed to his Brother. I am induced by the Warmth of my Friendship to send you this News-paper. You will keep it under the most profound Secrecy ; for should it be known that my News writer had communicated this Intelligence, my Life would be in Danger.

Extract of a Letter from Row Jee to Sheff Row.

You sent me Two Letters on the Subject of the French Chief to this Purport : That this Person who was to come to Poona, was an Impostor ; that no Countenance must be thrown to him, or his extraordinary Appearance of Civility kept up with regard to him ; for should the Gentlemen of the Administration of Bengal suspect such an Intercourse, it will be productive of very disagreeable Circumstances. This I perfectly understand. I represented all the Particulars to the Ministers, through the Channel of Madho Row Sadashae ; but Kishen Row Billal is the Patron of this Frenchman, and makes use of every Method to persuade the Ministers to countenance him. They therefore pretend to Mr. Moityn and me, that they are about to give him his Dismission ; but their real Designs are different. They have been Three or Four different Times to the House of the French Chief, and I hear that he has promised, that in the Course of Eighteen Months he will procure them from Europe a respectable Body of European Troops, with all the necessary Stores, &c. and that the Chiefs of all the different Settlements shall likewise receive express Instructions for their Conduct from the King of France. He represents, that a Place on the Sea Coast will be necessary for the Residence of the Forces, and the secure Anchorage of the Ships. A small Village has therefore been fixed upon near Rio-Dunda. This they will give up to him as soon as an Answer arrives from Europe. He demands at present a Monthly Stipend of One Lack and a Half of Rupees for the Support of the People he has with him ; and that 10,000 additional Sepoys should be rated and properly disciplined. He has brought on Shore from the Ships Eighty Pieces of Cannon ; and has also with him 200 European Soldiers, with all Kinds of Arms and Ammunition ; and is desirous of disciplining this small Body. The Ministers say amongst themselves, these Troops will be disciplined under the Direction of Europeans, and the Sepoys which we keep in our Service are without Necessaries or Discipline, but if put under the Direction of Europeans, they will be rendered fit for Service. Such are their Deliberations. I do not know if Madho Row Sadashae is acquainted with this Circumstance, and conceals it from me, or whether the Ministers keep him ignorant of it. I told Madho Row Sadashae, what was the Reason that Cannon, Lead, Powder, and Ammunition, had been landed at the Ghaut of Rio Dunda, and Orders given for the building of Storehouses, &c. &c. He replied, That it was the tempestuous Season which rendered it necessary to unload the ships ; that they had therefore been lightened of their Cargoes ; that after this Season was over, they would be again carried on board the Ships, and the French Chief should receive his Dismission. I shall communicate whatever I learn in future.

Translate of a Letter from Siccaram Pundit, dated the 26th October 1777.

I some Time ago wrote you Information of the Approach of a Person deputed by the King of France to this Quarter ; Monsieur Le Chevalier de St. Lubin has lately been honoured with an Audience

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

Audience of Row Pandit Purdaun Peshwa Sahib, when he delivered Letters from the King of France on the Subject of strengthening and confirming the ancient Friendship which subsisted between the Two Nations; and he also spoke on the Subject of their ancient Intimacy and Connection.

As the rainy Season was set in violently, Mr. Le Chevalier did not desire his Dismissal, and his Departure has been delayed on this Account. The Duties of Hospitality, both to Friends and Strangers, are incumbent on Chiefs of high Rank.

Should this Circumstance be related to you in an unfavourable Light, you will not, I am persuaded, give Credit to it. There will never be the least Deviation in Government from the Duties of the Friendship established, but it will take deeper Root. I send you a Letter in a Kora, from Serment Row Pandit Purdaun, addressed to the King of England, on the Subject of Friendship; be pleased to transmit it to England, and procure an Answer. By this you will much oblige me, give great Pleasure to Row Sahib Pandit Purdaun, and increase the Friendship which at present subsists.

Extract of a Letter from Row Jie to the Nabob Wallab Jab; dated the 30th of September.

The French Chief brought here Five Lacks of Rupees in Goods, which he has sold to the Merchants of this Place, but he is to deliver them here; he is accordingly gone with his People to Rio to fetch them.

Extract of a Letter from Dewagur Pandit, Dewan of Meekjee Boosha, Rajah of Perar. Received 18th December.

Soon afterwards an experienced Ambassador arrived on the Part of the King of France, with a Letter and Prent of various Articles, and earnestly intreated an Audience of Pandit Purdaun, which he obtained: I was also acquainted with the Discourses they held in private: Five Persons only were privy to this Matter. The Intention of what I have written above, is to shew, that as soon as the English entered into Alliance with Pandit Purdaun, the Powers of other Countries immediately courted his Friendship, and his Government thereby acquired a fresh Degree of Splendour.

Eng Extract from a Letter from Rowjee to the Nabob Wallab Jab; dated the 11th April 1777.

Mr. Molyn informed me, that Two French Ships, one carrying 70 Guns, and the other 40, were arrived at Rio, and the other at Rio Dunda; that they had sent Boats to learn Intelligence concerning Ingria, who was near to them, with 4 or 5 Men in a Boat from the Ship, who coming to Rio Dunda, visited the Government Gomastah, and through him wrote an Arzee to the Presence, to be admitted to an Audience. Mr. Molyn hearing this, represented that the French were in Alliance with Hyder Ally Khan, and that it was necessary the Government should be on its Guard; but the Ministers paid no Regard to him, but sent Orders to the Gomastahs at Rio Dunda to furnish the French who were arrived there with Conveyances to transport them to the Presence. On the Arrival of these Orders, Three Europeans, Two Caffries, with a Writer of Ingria's, and Forty-five Peons, set out for the Presence, and arrived at Poona. On the 28th Nanah Purnaveesle returning to Poona, they waited on him, but what passed between them is not known. Madho Row has taken no Part in this Business, nor is there any Person of Credit engaged in it except Nanah Purnaveesle. I hear that some French Officer is arrived at Rio Dunda, and means to proceed to the Presence; on this Account, Nanah Purnaveesle continues some Days at Poona. This Circumstance has thrown a Damp on Mr. Molyn's Negotiations. The French Chief is daily expected; when he arrives I will make myself acquainted with the Subject of his Negotiation, and transmit you an Account thereof. I learn from Report, that the French Officer's Name is Monsieur Le Chevalier de St. Lubin.

From the Aumil of Windawis, dated 29th August 1777.

I have already informed you of the Arrival of the French Officer, and of his Engagement with the Ministers to bring them Aid from Europe in the course of 18 Months, during which Time they are to give him the Command of 10,000 Infantry, to be disciplined by him. They were settling the Pay of this Body when your Highness's Letter to me arrived, directing me to explain in the clearest Manner to the Ministers, that by giving Encouragement to a French Sirdar, the long established Friendship between them and your Highness and the English would be destroyed; and that they must not expect in such Case any Friendship, either from you or the English. This Representation occasioned much Reflection and threw a Damp on the Negotiation.

I hear that the French Sirdar has written Letters to France through the Factory of Surat, but the Purport is not known. Mr. Molyn told me that the King of France sent him to gain Intelligence.

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

It is very certain he has a Letter from the King of France. The Ministers sent Dispatches to Europe through the Chief of Surat, in consequence of which the King sent this Man, and it is probable that whatever he may have proposed in his Letters will be complied with.

For the Sake of Appearances, he brought Goods with him, and is engaged in Commerce, but his real Designs are different. His Expences are great; how should he be able to make such Pretensions of himself? From these Circumstances it is evident that he is no Impostor.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Having been fortunate enough to obtain some Intelligence before I left Europe, in which the Interest of the East India Company and the Influence of Great Britain in India appear to be deeply interested, I think it incumbent upon me to take the earliest Opportunity of communicating it to your Honourable Board: I am concerned at the same Time to be under the Necessity of laying the Facts only before you, without having it in my Power to point out the Channels through which the Intelligence was conveyed to me; as my Promise was most particularly taken before I was myself entrusted with it, that I should conceal the Names of the Persons from whom I received the Information. It was not without some Difficulty that I obtained Permission to inform the Governor General and Sir John Clavering of this material Circumstance, and that only upon Condition that they should not trust it to the Records of the Company, however secret they might be. The Opinions which those Gentlemen must form as to the Authenticity of the Facts which I now propose myself the Honour of laying before you, will be a sufficient Justification of me for addressing you in this Letter.

It appears by the Information to which I allude, that Monsieur Sartine, Ministre de la Marine of France, has concerted with Three or Four of the principal Ministers of that Country a Scheme, the Object of which is the total Overthrow of the English Interests in India; that he was sensible the Force which France could herself bring against our Settlements would prove insufficient for so great an Undertaking, and had therefore thought it necessary to the Completion of his Views, to begin by intriguing with the Country Powers, and by endeavouring to secure them in the Interest of France, in Opposition to those of Britain; that for this Purpose it was resolved to send a Person to India with full Powers, in the Character of Agent, and likewise to send out Persons, who in the Information are called des Exerceurs, to discipline the Natives of India, and a considerable Quantity of Arms and Military Stores. The Person who was nominated to this Office was described to me as one who had before been in India. He was to go to Pondicherry first, but to assume no public Character, that he might not be subjected to the Suspicions of the English; he is furnished with Letters from the Court of France to all the Country Princes of any Note in India, to be used at his own Discretion; he likewise carries out Presents of considerable Value, which he is to distribute as he may judge necessary. The Substance of his Instructions are as follows: To treat with such of the Country Powers as he may have Reason to think will most readily assist the Views of France, and to form Alliances with them in the Name of the King of France; to endeavour to persuade the Country Powers to fall upon the English Settlements; and he is authorized to promise such as will accede to his Proposal, the warmest Support of his Nation secretly till Hostilities are actually commenced, and then openly. He is warned however in his Instructions, that France is not to take the Lead in the War, but is to come in as an Assistant only. The Person from whom I learned these Particulars knows for certain that the Agent sailed from Marseilles in the Beginning of April last, but was unacquainted with his Name, and unable to inform me for certain what Road he had followed to India, but seemed to be of Opinion that he must have passed over to Alexandria, in the Intention of embarking at Suez for India.

Having informed you of what I venture to say may be relied on as authentic, it will not be misplaced to add an Account more in Detail of some Enquiries which my Knowledge of the above Circumstances led me to make, which though by no Means so successful as my Zeal on this Occasion would make me wish, will not, I flatter myself, be deemed unworthy of your Notice.

A Circumstance which I learned from Colonel Capper, who had passed through Egypt in February last, and which was confirmed to me by Mr. Dighton, who was in his Company, rendered it very probable that the Agent had passed through that Country in his Way to India. That the French Consul at Cairo was in daily Expectation of the Arrival of a Ship at Cairo, when they passed through that Town; and I was told by Mr. Baldwin, an English Gentleman residing at Cairo, that when an Account was brought of a Ship's being seen off or in the Red Sea, which afterwards proved to be the Swallow Sloop of War; the French Consul said in his hearing that he was sure it was a French Ship, as he had certain Intelligence that one was dispatched from India, which should arrive about that Time. I was assured nevertheless by Three or Four French Merchants at Cairo, from whom I made Enquiries upon this Subject, that they never had any Expectation of seeing a French Ship at Suez; and I learnt at Mocha that there has not been a single French Ship in the Red Sea this Year. In passing through Marseilles I made all the Inquiries that I could, without rendering myself suspicious, but could learn nothing of any Consequence, but that some Ships had sailed from that Port early in the Year for India. As there was no Ship to sail from Suez under Three Weeks or a Month after my Arrival at Cairo, I had an Opportunity of tracing a Gentleman who had left Cairo a few Days before my Arrival, and who in many Particulars answered the Description given to me of the French Agent on the other Side of the Water. It appears from the Intelligence which I received, which was principally derived from Mr. Baldwin, and partly from the Gentlemen of the French Factory in Egypt, and from a Turk whom I shall afterwards have Occasion to mention more particularly, that

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A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

early in April a French Gentleman wearing a Cross, and calling himself the Chevalier de Montagny, arrived at Cairo from France. It was reported upon his first Arrival that he was going to India, but after having staid at Cairo about a Month that Report was entirely dropped; and upon my asking the Question of the French Consul, was positively contradicted. He associated but very little with the Gentlemen of Cairo, which is uncommon where the Society of Europeans is so small. A Venetian Gentleman and a Janizary who attended upon the Chevalier, informed Mr. Baldwin and myself, that he had a Persian Master whilst at Cairo, and used to study that Language great Part of the Day. With some Difficulty the Man, a Native of Damascus, with whom he had studied, was traced, and I had an Opportunity of conversing with him more than once. From him I learnt that the Chevalier had studied Persian with him about Six Weeks or Two Months before his Departure from Cairo; that he understood the Language a little before he came to Egypt, and was able to converse in it, though not without some Difficulty; that he brought Persian Books with him from France, the Names of which were mentioned to me, and had likewise many Persian Letters, which upon questioning the Turk I found were Letters of Hindostan, as their *Alcabs*, or complimentary Addresses were used in Hindostan only; that his Attention was given more to those than to the Books; and that he informed this Man he was going to India, and offered him advantageous Appointments if he would accompany him, which from an apprehension of the Danger of a Sea Voyage was refused by the Turk. About the 20th of June he went away from Cairo in a very secret Manner, taking Leave of no one, as is always customary amongst the Europeans at Cairo; which was not only observed as a Singularity by Mr. Baldwin and the Venetians, but likewise by the French Merchants, who expressed their Astonishment at what they deemed a Want of Politeness. It is observable that he left Cairo the Day after the Arrival of a Mail from France. Mr. Baldwin would have remained ignorant of his Departure, as the Chevalier had not been visible for a Month before, had he not by mere Accident seen a considerable Quantity of Baggage going out of Cairo, which upon Enquiry he found to be his, and he was then told by the Arabs, a Body of whom always escort Travellers across the Desert, that they were going to Suez. The Air of Mystery with which every Thing was conducted which had any Relation to this Gentleman, led Mr. Baldwin to be more particular in his Enquiries, and the Custom Master, a Native of Egypt, and who could consequently have but little Idea of the Jealousy subsisting between the Two Nations, observed that there must be something very particular in this Gentleman, who, though there were Four English Vessels at Suez, could not be persuaded to embark on one of them for India, where he was going, but was resolved to go to Judda or Mocha on a Boat, in which he was subjected both to Danger and Delay. I cannot help dwelling a little upon this Circumstance, because it seems to me to be a strong presumptive Proof that the Chevalier is in some Shape employed by the Court of France. It was necessary to apply to the Custom Master, from his Office, for a Country Boat; and he was the Person who I conjecture advised him to embark on board an English Vessel; and unless the Chevalier's Dislike to this Mode had been expressed in a Manner very marked, it is not probable that a Native of Cairo would have drawn such a Conclusion from it. The Misfortune which befel Mr. Grand Maifon, and the Seizure of his Papers after his Death on board the Terrible, is a Circumstance with which your Honourable Board must be acquainted, and of which the Chevalier could not be ignorant, as I myself heard the Story related at Cairo; after which it is not to be wondered at, if he would not trust himself in an English Vessel. The last Circumstance which I learned at Cairo, seems to be the most conclusive, which is, that he was furnished with a very large Credit by the Court of France; and this Circumstance I rely upon as authentic, because I was informed of it by a French Merchant at Cairo, and likewise by a French Renegado at Suez, who learned it from the Chevalier's own Servant. It will not be misplaced here, to observe, that Monsieur Grand Maifon had a similar Credit for Ten thousand Venetian Sequins, about 4,500l. When I enquired, whether it was customary for the Court of France to grant such Credits, the French Gentleman who informed me of it, seemed sensible that he had committed an Imprudence, and said that he imagined the Chevalier de Montagny was employed by the Court as a Man of Literature and Knowledge, to make a Journey into Egypt. Upon my Arrival at Suez, I found that the Chevalier had been there; and not being able to find a Boat that would sail with him in less than Three Weeks, had made a Journey to Mount Sinai, from whence he returned a few Days after my Arrival at Suez, and had sailed for Judda about the 15th July. I thought it worth while to enquire, whether he had used any Mathematical Instruments in his Excursion to Mount Sinai; and was assured by the Arabs who accompanied him, that he had carried none with him, having left his Baggage at Suez. Had he been employed as a literary Traveller, he certainly must have used Instruments. His Servant told the Renegado, that he was a Traveller of Curiosity, and meant to go from Juddah to Mecca; this was not possible, as he embarked avowedly as a Christian; and as it is notorious that the Mahometans allow no Christians to approach a City which they esteem to holy, and which they would conceive to be polluted by the Presence of those whom they call Infidels.

I have thought it necessary to be very minute in the Account of what I was able to discover relative to this Gentleman, because it appears to me that he must be employed by his Court in some Shape or another, though there are many Circumstances which render it probable that he is not the Person entrusted with the Commission mentioned in the Fifth Part of my Letter. Though the French Title of Chevalier is a Title which carries little or indeed no Importance in it in any Part of Europe, it is not so common in India; and if the Chevalier de Montagny should turn out to be the Agent, the Court of France will certainly, in some Shape, have departed from their original

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

Plan, which was to give him as little external Consequence as possible. I was likewise told at Cairo, that he is himself a Major in the Army, and the Son of a Person who either is or has been a Farmer General, and that his Family, by a late Promotion, are become *Noblesse*. There is one Part of the Intelligence I received at Cairo which does not agree with the Information given me in Europe, as it was positively asserted that he had never before been in India; though the Truth of his Assertion may be doubted, as his talking Persian, and his being in Possession of Indian Correspondence, are sufficient Reasons for suspecting that he had been there. One French Gentleman went so far as to say to me, that he was a Person, qui voulloit se donner du mérite envers les Bureaus. If the Chevalier de Montagny had been entrusted with so important a Commission, it is very extraordinary that a Vessel should not have been ready to receive him at Suez; and none having even come into the Red Sea in the Course of the whole Year, affords a strong Presumption that he is not the Person, though it by no Means amounts to a Proof, as many possible Accidents may have occasioned such a Mistake; and it must be observed on the other Hand, that the French Consul, who is the National Agent there, assured himself that one would arrive. The French Merchants disagreeing with him in this Expectation, leaves room to conjecture that the Ship he expected was employed by Government, and not upon a trading Voyage, as he is himself restricted from Trade. On the whole, I doubt not your Honourable Board will deem the Appearances sufficiently strong to think it worth while to take some Steps to clear up whatever may appear doubtful about this Gentleman, and as it is possible, and indeed likely, that he should assume another Name and Character upon his Arrival at Mocha, I made particular Enquiries about his Person, and venture to add, however useless it may be, the Description I received of it: He is short in his Stature, stoops much, and looks down when he is speaking with any one; his Hair is brown, and his Complexion inclinable to be dark; his Legs are remarkably ill proportioned, being nearly as thick at Bottom as at Top; he is accompanied by a European Servant, who is a stout, tall Man.

He will in all Probability make an exceeding long Voyage down the Red Sea, and will not be able to reach Mocha till the latter End of August. He will find no French Ship at Mocha, and will be reduced to the Necessity of embarking on board the Alexander, an English Ship trading in the Red Sea, or of going over Land to Muscat, on the Persian Gulph, a Journey not to be performed without much Difficulty and great Delays. It is however possible that he may arrive Time enough to fall in a Portuguese Ship, which intended to sail from Mocha to Surat about the 20th August. At any rate I think it is not possible that he should be landed in any Part of India sooner than the End of October 1777.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. Elliott.

The Governor General delivers in the following Minute:

Mr. Francis having drawn up Objections to the Resolution of the President and Council of Bombay in the Form of a Protest, with his Reasons stated in distinct Articles, I have thought it proper to copy his Minute entire, and to insert my Reply opposite to each corresponding Passage, for the better Comprehension of the several Arguments contained in both.

I would propose that the Board should protest, as I mean to do myself, separately, against the Resolution of the Presidency of Bombay, communicated to us in their Letter of the 12th December last, for the following Reasons:

1st. Because their resolving to join with a Party in the Maratta Government in Measures tending to engage the Company in a War, or their entering into Engagements to that Effect, as they declare they will do instantly on receiving an Application from the Persons who are supposed to form the above Party, without the Consent and Approbation of this Council first had and obtained, is against Law.

I cannot agree to the Motion made by Mr. Francis, for protesting against the Resolutions of the President and Council of Bombay, because I approve those Resolutions, for the Reasons which will occur in the following Answers to Mr. Francis's Objections:

1st. This is a partial Construction of the Act of Parliament, which admits of Two Exceptions from the general Prohibition. That no Doubt may be left upon this Case, I will quote the Clause of the Act at large which Mr. Francis alludes to, in pronouncing the Resolution of the Presidency of Bombay to be "against Law." It is as follows:

" And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Governor General and Council, or the major Part of them, shall have, and they are hereby authorized to have Power of superintending and controlling the Government and Management of the Presidencies of Madras, Bombay, and Bencoolen respectively, so far and in so much as that it shall not be lawful for any President and Council of Madras, Bombay, or Bencoolen, for the Time being, to make any Orders for commencing Hostilities, or declaring or making War against any Indian Princes or Powers, or for negotiating or concluding

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29:

"cluding any Treaty of Peace, or other Treaty,
"with any such Indian Princes or Powers, without
"the Consent and Approbation of the said
"Governor General and Council first had and
"obtained; except in such Cases of imminent
"Necessity as would render it dangerous to postpone
"such Hostilities or Treaties until the
"Orders from the Governor General and Council
"might arrive; and except in such Cases where
"the said Presidents and Councils respectively
"shall have received special Orders from the
"said United Company."

The Resolution of the Presidency of Bombay was formed on such a Case of imminent Necessity as would have rendered it dangerous to postpone the Execution of it till the Orders from this Council might arrive; a Treaty concluded near Two Years ago yet unaccomplished, and the Grounds of a hostile Alliance formed by one of the Parties to the Treaty, Ballajee Pundit, between the Maratta State and the Crown of France; such were the Dangers impending over the President and Council of Bombay. A Measure was offered to their Choice, by which these Dangers might be removed and averted, and it was in its Nature such as required their instant Acceptance or Refusal, for it would have been impossible to have kept a Design, planned by One of the Two ruling Parties in the Maratta Administration to dispossess the other, in Suspence and Secrecy, till it could be communicated to the Governor General and Council of Bengal, and receive their Sanction for its Execution. No other Expedient could have occurred, which could promise so effectually to reconcile the Differences subsisting between the Governments of Poona and Bombay, nor which, if successful, could with Certainty prevent the Effects of French Intrigues. It was therefore a Case of equal Danger and Necessity, and such as justified the Resolution taken upon it by that Presidency, on its own separate Authority.

2d. Because it is equally against the Company's Instructions in their General Letter of April 1777, by which the Expediency of any future Alliance with Ragoba is expressly left to our Determination.

2d. The Company's Instructions, to which this Passage refers, are contained in the 25th Paragraph of their General Letter of the 5th February 1777, which runs as follows:

" You cannot but observe, that we have hitherto supposed the Affairs of Ragoba are rendered desperate, and that the Ministers at Poona maintain their Ground, and constitute at present the Maratta Government. We are nevertheless of Opinion, that an Alliance originally with Ragoba would have been more for the Honour and Advantage of the Company, and more likely to be lasting, than that concluded at Poona; his Pretensions to the Supreme Authority, either in his own Right, or as Guardian to the Infant Peshwa, appear to us better founded than those of his Competitors: And therefore, if the Conditions of the Treaty of Poona have not been strictly fulfilled on the Part of the Marattas, and if from any Circumstances you shall deem it expedient, we have no Objection to an Alliance with Ragoba, on the Terms agreed upon between him and the Governor and Council of Bombay."

These Instructions were immediately addressed

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

to the Governor General and Council, as they related to a Point depending on their general Controul; but must be supposed to include the same Exceptions as the prohibitory Clause above quoted in the A&t of Parliament. The same Sentiments are expressed in the general Letter of the 16th April 1777, to Bombay, and almost in the same Terms, without any direct Restriction of them, to the exclusive Authority of the Governor General and Council, which it is not probable that the Company would have omitted, had it been intended to bind the President and Council of Bombay in the Execution of them, further than they were already bound by the A&t of Parliament.

Disobedience of Orders necessarily implies the Existence of Orders. Those supposed in the present Case must be Orders forbidding an Alliance with Ragoba; but the Declaration made of Orders given to the Governor General and Council of Bengal, to form an Alliance with Rogaba, cannot possibly admit the Construction of Orders given to the Presidency of Bombay, not to form an Alliance with him. The Resolution therefore of that Presidency, so far as it tends to the Formation of an Alliance with Ragoba, is not a Disobedience of Orders, nor, to use Mr. Francis's Words, is it "against the Company's Instructions?" On the contrary, I am of Opinion, that the general Tenor of their Instructions, the Urgency of the Occasion, and the legal Latitude allowed them, amount, by their combined Weight, to an Obligation on the President and Council of Bombay, to act in such a Case as they have done.

3d. Because it is a Violation of the 9th and 10th Articles of the Treaty concluded between the Governor General and Council and the Peshwah.

3d. The 10th and 12th Articles, which I suppose to be here meant, express, that the English shall withdraw their Forces from Ragonaut Row, and that they shall not assist him; that is, that they shall not take his Part against the Maratta Government, as the 12th Article expresses in Terms; but if that Government itself adopts the Party of Ragonaut Row, and solicits the Assistance of the English in his Behalf, it can never be inferred from their Compliance, that they are guilty of a Violation of the Treaty.

It will be remembered, that the only Persons who have signed the Treaty on the Part of the Mārattas, are Succaram Pundit and Ballajee Pundit, not as Principals, but as the professed Representatives of the Peshwa, who is yet an Infant; of these, Succaram Pundit is acknowledged to be the Superior, being by Office the Dewan. To him only all our first Letters were written; and Colonel Upton's Credentials were addressed, as to the Person in whom the legal Administration was vested. By the Constitution of all Indian Governments, the executive Power is always held by the Hands of a single Man. The Person of the Peshwa and his Seal, by which all Acts of Government are authenticated, are in the Possession of Succaram Pundit; whose Acts are therefore the regular Acts of Government, whilst the Members of it continue divided.

He is supposed to have invited the Presidency of Bombay, to unite with him in giving Assistance to

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

to Ragonaut Row; and we have received Assurances from that Presidency, that they will not comply with the Invitation, until they shall receive the due Evidence of its Authenticity. Their Assistance of course will be granted equally to the Maratta State as to Ragonaut Row; and to the Peshwa, the actual Ruler of the Maratta State. It is not therefore a Violation of the Treaty concluded between the Governor General and Council, and the Peshwa.

4th. Because such Violation of a public Treaty between Two States is not to be justified by the Reasons assigned for it, viz. That a Number of Individuals in one of those States are inclined to engage in Measures subversive of all or any of the Stipulations of such public Treaty, and have privately applied for Assistance in carrying such Measures into Execution.

4th. This Objection appears to me to consist of a simple Denial of an Argument erroneously stated. The Proposition which it introduces, is incompatible in Terms. A Violation of a public Treaty cannot be justified by any Reasons assigned for it. The Reasons assigned to the President and Council of Bombay, are not that *a Number of Individuals in the Maratta State are inclined to engage in Measures subversive of all or any of the Stipulations of the Treaty, and have privately applied for Assistance, &c.* but, That the ruling Member of the Maratta State has himself removed the Obligation of the Treaty which relates to the Person of Ragonaut Row, by desiring the English to grant that Assistance to Ragonaut Row in behalf of the Maratta State, which they had before pledged their Faith to him to withhold while he was considered as an Enemy to that State. The Reasons thus assigned appear to me to be a complete Justification and Acquittal of the President and Council of Bombay, in their supposed Acquiescence from the Charge of having violated the Treaty.

5th. Because even the Evidence of such a Disposition in Persons alluded to, appears to us very uncertain and defective, being no more than a private verbal Message from them to Mr. Moflyn's Substitute at Poona; meant perhaps for no other Purpose but to discover our Intentions with respect to Ragoba, and which they may disavow at Pleasure.

5th. If the Measures of the President and Council of Bombay, have been decidedly taken on such weak Grounds as are supposed in this Objection, their Conduct would have been truly reprehensible. The contrary appears on the Face of their Proceedings. I have not either of the Copies before me, understanding that they are in Circulation; but I trust securely to my Memory, in affirming, that their Resolutions are guarded with all the Cautions which such a Case demanded, with perhaps one Exception: They had done nothing on the Overtures made to them, but had only agreed on what they would do, if these were confirmed and authenticated by an Instrument in Writing, signed by the Minister and his Colleagues, and sealed with their Seals, and delivered by a Person deputed by them expressly to the Governor. Such Evidence will be certain and complete; and on such Evidence only have the President and Council of Bombay resolved to enter into Engagements with the Minister.

6th. Because there are no Proofs before us to warrant our giving Credit to an Assertion so improbable as, that Succaram Baboo, whose Letters to the Governor have been constantly, and are to this Time, filled with Complaints against the Non-execution of the Treaty, and particularly of the Protection given to Ragoba, should voluntarily enter into private Engagements, to restore Ragoba to the Regency, and solicit the Assistance of the Presidency of Bombay for that Purpose.

6th. We have been long since informed of the mutual Jealousies of the Two Ministers. This is an Effect which requires no Evidence of Facts to prove it; it being physically impossible for Two Men, sharing with equal Power, and without any constitutional Right, the chief Administration of a despotic Government, to maintain their Union entire against the Competitions excited by their particular Interests, or the more interested Suggestions of their respective Partizans and Dependents; added to these Causes, which are common

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

to all Men placed in a Condition similar to theirs, their Prospects and Dispositions are such as must draw them in contrary Directions; and this too is a Consequence which simple Speculation may form independant of formal Evidence: One is disqualifid from Action by the Infirmities of Old Age, and whatever Influence his Ambition might have had on his Mind when he first engaged in a Scene of Troubles, this must have wholly forsaken him with the Object, which most probably excited it in the Loss of an only Son. To such a Man Ease and personal Safety are the only Comforts that Life can present to him, or that can animate him to any Degree of temporary Exertion: We are accordingly told, and on the Authority of Credit, that he resides entirely in the Fortress of Poorunder, which is his own Property, with the Infant Peshwa in his Possession, and (as I have heard) a considerable Hoard of Treasure, which he refused to part with, even at the Time when his Colleague was involved in great Difficulties by the Want of Money to pay the Army, which had mutinied for their Arrears. The other is yet in the active Season of Life, supported partly by the personal Interest of his Associate joined to his own, partly by the Attachment Hurry Punt Furkia, the Commander in Chief of the Forces of the Maratta State, and partly by the immediate Direction of all the current Business of Government, which he has either assumed or his Partner has left to his sole Charge: To such a Man it was an obvious and necessary Policy to employ the present Means of precluding all future Competitions, and for securing the first Place in the State on the Event of the Death of Succaram Baboo: The Means employed for such an End, and especially the Provision made of a foreign Alliance to promote it, could not fail to heighten the Suspicions of his present Rival, and to breed Disaffection in others.

If Succaram Baboo can obtain the assured Conditions of personal Safety, and the unmolested Possession of his own Property, from Ragoba, I see no Cause to regard his Acceptance of them as improbable, although he should have joined in more adverie Acts against Ragoba, than that instanced by Mr. Francis of his Complaint of the Protection granted by the English to Ragoba, whilst his own Interest and Safety appeared to be endangered by it.

I am not certain whether I may not misconceive the Tendency of this and the preceding Objection, but they seem to me to imply that the late Overtures made to the Presidency of Bombay by Succaram Baboo and his Party, through Mr. Lewis, may have been an Artifice concerted between them and Nanna Furneels himself, not only to discover our Intentions with respect to Ragoba, but to gain the Possession of his Person and to destroy him. This would be a very dangerous Policy both to the Ministers themselves, if they were sincerely united in it, as it would draw on them a very unnecessary Scene of Troubles, which from past Experience of the Success which has generally attended the English Arms, they have so great a Causē to solicit, and particularly to Nanna Furneels, as it would place him precisely and truly in the Situation which it was intended

to

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

to feign, and leave him at the absolute Mercy of his Accomplices, if they chose to convert a pretended Plot against him into a real one. In effect I should consider the Existence of such a Design as in the Nature of Things impossible.

7th. Because, admitting that a Party has been formed to support the Pretensions of Ragoba, such Party is either strong enough to accomplish their Purpose without our Assistance, consequently our Interference is unnecessary; or if their own strength be in itself unequal to the Enterprize, they will then want an immediate and continued Support which the Presidency of Bombay is in no Condition to give them. In their Letter of the 7th December they tell us, that their European Battalions are greatly deficient of their proper Complement, which they have no Means or Prospect of completing: And that notwithstanding they give every Encouragement, it is very difficult to raise good Sepoys on that Coast. That they are unable to co-operate with the other Presidencies, in case of an Attack upon either of them; that limited as their Power is, and unprovided as they are with Resources, they cannot exert themselves as the Occasion requires, they can do no more than represent their Situation and Circumstances to us, &c.

It follows then that the Resolution of the Bombay Presidency, to carry Ragoba to Poona, may involve us in a War, in which the Safety of our Possessions on the Maratta Coast may be immediately hazarded, and which can no Way be supported hereafter but by Supplies of Men and Money from Bengal.

7th. I agree with Mr. Francis, that the Presidency of Bombay is unable to support a continued War, but by Supplies of Men and Money from Bengal. This is an Argument to supply them with Men and Money, but it is not in itself an Objection to their Resolution; if their own Means are equal to its immediate Execution, and to its Support until they can be assisted from Bengal.

This Government can assist them with both Men and Money, and I trust without feeling the Want of either for the Support of its own Concerns. By the last Returns from Bombay, the gross Numbers of their different Military Corps stood as follows:

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|--------------------------|---|------|
| Artillery, Rank and File | — | 261 |
| European Infantry, D° | — | 783 |
| Sepoys D° | — | 5621 |
| Irregulars — | — | 1231 |

The Force of this Presidency was much less at the Battle of Plassey. It was much less, when it was at the same Time occupied in the Defence of these Provinces against the Shahzade, and in the Expedition under Colonel Forde against Masulipatam; and it was much less when unsupported by any Country Power, it wrested the Provinces of Bengal and Bahar from the Hands of Cossin Ally Cawn.

I have no Doubt of their being in a State to enter upon the Measure which they have proposed. The Distance of Bombay from Poona is but a March of Four Days. I am informed that Madajee Sindea and Tuccojee Holkar are both encamped in the Neighbourhood of Poona, with about 20,000 Horse. They are, if the Association has taken Place, in the Interest of Ragoba. Hurry Punt Ferkia was, I am informed, on the Banks of the River Kistna, at a Place called Kistna Teer, with the main Army of the Maratta State, engaged in a War with Hyder Ally: He is represented to be attached to Nana Furneese, but can afford him little Service on such an Occasion and at such a Distance. Such is the present State of the Parties on which the Event of an Undertaking, such as has been proposed by the Presidency of Bombay, is likely to depend, at least such I have gathered it to be from Authorities unconnected with those of Bombay. I shall not presume to draw any Conclusions from such uncertain and variable Materials; but I am satisfied that all Appearances, such as they are, are favourable, and convinced that it depends on the Prudence of the Government of Bombay to prevent the Company's Affairs from suffering any Prejudice by the proposed Engagements; if they should even fail to derive any instant Benefit from it.

8th. Because it is at all Times the Duty of his Council to give their utmost Attention to the Preservation of Peace in India, but at this Juncture more particularly than at any other,

8th. The Argument which is here introduced as an Objection to the proposed Measure, would, in my Judgment, be better applied to the Defence of it. If the Apprehension of a War with France

A P P E N D I X , N° 27, 28, and 29.

while a considerable Part of the national Force is employed in America, and while the Apprehension of a War with France and Spain hangs over the Councils of the Nation.

France and Spain hangs over the Councils of the Nation, we relieve them from a considerable Share of their Apprehension, by establishing a firm Interest in the most powerful State of India; and by checking in its first Growth the Seeds which the French have sown of an Alliance with it, and which, if suffered to grow to Maturity, may prove fatal to the British Possessions in India. At the same Time it is the most unexceptionable Way by which the French Designs could possibly be obviated; as they have no ostensible or direct Concern in these Disputes, but will be eventually crushed by the Overthrow of their Friends; whereas by waiting till they have acquired an Establishment in the Maratta Dominions, we shall be reduced to act openly against them, which we cannot do without an immediate additional Hazard, nor without involving the Two Nations in a War.

9th. Because the Requisition made by the Presidency of Bombay to that of Fort Saint George, of a Body of Troops for any Purpose but that of immediate Self-defence without our Consent and Approbation, appears to us highly irregular, and in its Consequences dangerous, as it tends to defeat the Intention of the Legislature in the Institution of this Council; and to make it impossible for us to provide for the Safety of the British Empire in India by any general Plan of Measures.

It is not possible that the Company's Forces should act under a steady and united Direction for the general Safety and Defence of our Possessions, or move together in any one Plan of Action, as long as the respective Disposition of the Forces of each of the other Presidencies is liable to be altered without our Knowledge or Consent.

9th. A like Application was made by the Presidency of Bombay to that of Fort Saint George in the Year 1775, with which, in a Letter written to the latter on the 7th September, we forbade their Compliance.

The Sentiments expressed by the Court of Directors in the 45th Paragraph of their Commands of the 24th December 1776 on that Interference, is so pointedly opposite to the Objection now stated by Mr. Francis, that I shall insert an Extract of that Paragraph as a complete Reply to it.

" We are sorry to observe, that you appear " to entertain an Opinion of the controlling " Powers vested in the Governor General and " Council of Bengal over our other Presidencies, " beyond what in our Opinion is authorized by " the late Act of the Legislature.

" This Observation arises from your Interference with our Governor and Council of Fort Saint George, to prohibit them sending Troops out of their own Districts for Aid to our Settlement of Bombay, although the said Act expressly forbids any of the other Presidencies to engage in political Negotiations with the Natives, or foreign Nations, without the Participation and Concurrence of the Supreme Council; yet it certainly leaves each distinct Government Power to take from Time to Time such Steps as the immediate Exigency of their Affairs may require for Self-defence or Protection, or for the necessary Aid or Assistance to be given to other Settlements; and on this Principle we must disapprove your Interference in this Case."

10th. Because the Resolutions taken by the Presidency of Bombay not only stand in direct Contradiction to the Authorities and Engagements hereinbefore recited, but more especially to the Instructions of this Council, unanimously agreed, on the 18th August last, which they appear to have totally disregarded, and which it is our Duty to support and insist on. I desire the Second Paragraph in that Letter may be read.

The first Point has undoubtedly afforded just Cause of Offence and Jealousy to the Maratta Government. We wish that Ragoba had been induced to accept the Terms of Conciliation lately

10th. While I was preparing the Minute recorded on the 26th January, and written before the Receipt of the late Advices from Bombay, I caused the last of these Expedients to be stated in a Case and referred to a learned Pundit for his Opinion upon it. I intended it at that Time for my own Information only; and it was on the Strength of this Opinion, that I declared the Expedient to be impracticable in the Minute above-mentioned; I shall now enter the Question stated to the Pundit, his Answer, and Note of Mr. Elliot's, which accompanied it, and produce the Originals of each at the Board for further Satisfaction.

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29.

sferred to him by the Ministers, to reside at Benares, with a Jaghire of Five Lacks of Rupees per Annum, in the Neighbourhood of Calcutta. These Conditions, though they effectually removed the Objections formerly made by Ragoba against the Terms secured for him by the Treaty, were excepted to by him on account of the Difficulty of proceeding to Benares; from the Danger that he thought his Person would be exposed to in a Journey by Land through the Maratta Dominions; and his religious Scruples against a Voyage by Sea.

" We can see no Reason to doubt, that the Presence of Ragoba at Bombay will continue to be an insuperable Bar to the Completion of the Treaty concluded with the Maratta Government; nor can any sincere Cordiality and good Understanding be established with them as long as he shall appear to derive Encouragement and Support from the English: On the contrary, we think that although it may not furnish sufficient Grounds for the actual Renewal of Hostilities, it will so far estrange the Minds of the Ministers at least, as to compel them to form Connections to the Disadvantage of the British Government; so that notwithstanding the Forms of a Reconciliation should exist, neither Party will benefit by the Effects of it. We therefore think it incumbent upon us to recommend to your most mature Consideration the dangerous Effects of your persisting still to continue that Protection to Ragoba, and to desire you will do all that lies in your Power to remove the Obstacles which oppose his Departure from Bombay; for this Purpose we think that he should be required to make choice either of a Journey by Land, if Tuccojee Holcar and Madhajee Sindia will give proper Security to conduct him in Safety, which we have been assured, they would do; or of a Voyage by Sea, which might be accomplished without affecting his religious Purity, if he were accommodated with a Vessel fitted out and manned immediately under his Orders, and by Persons of his own Sect, to be accompanied by One of the Company's Marine Vessels for his Protection. If both these Expedients should be rejected by Ragoba, we must naturally conclude, that it is not his Intention to part with his present Asylum, but that the Objections which he has started to the Terms proposed to him, are mere Pretexts; and on this Ground, we repeat our Injunctions, that he be positively required to quit the Company's Dependencies, as we shall hold you responsible for all the Consequences of continuing the Company's Protection to him, after such a Refusal on his Part."

Question. A Brahmin of high Cast is desirous of visiting Bengal from Surat. It is proposed, that he shall be attended by Persons of his own Sect, and that the Vessel on which he may embark for this Voyage shall be navigated *solely* by Hindoos. Will this Voyage in any Shape affect his religious Purity, or hinder him from performing the necessary and indispensible Rites and Forms of Devotion?

Note from Mr. Elliot.

" I send you the Solution to your Question by the Court Pundit, the only one I could immediately find. He is a Man much respected for Knowledge. He added in Conversation, that a single European or other Infidel, would preclude the Brahmin from making the Voyage.

(Signed)
" A. Elliot."

Translate of the Pundit's Answer.

" If all the Men in the Ship are Hindoos, and all Jowlbugharge*, or Men from whose Hands it is not impure to receive Water to drink, and Two or Three Brahmins should accompany him, and he eats, drinks, washes, and prays, &c. according to the Shaster, then he will not suffer in his Cast, and in the Case stated he may come upon a Ship.

(Signed)
" Serree Ram Kishun Suema,
" the Court Pundit."

I am assured, that though it is customary for Hindoos to navigate Vessels on the West Coast of India, yet they are always joined with Mahometan Lascars, who are constantly employed in the most difficult Manoeuvres of the Ship, and in the working of their Guns; and the Society of such Men being themselves polluted, is, as is well known, equally forbidden to the more scrupulous Hindoos with that of the Professors of a different Religion: This Expedient was therefore impracticable. What Objections either Ragoba's Distrust of Madhajee Sindia and Tuccojee Holcar, or their Refusal to give the requisite Securities, might have created to the other Expedient, we cannot know, because Time was not given for the Trial of either; but had either been practicable, it ought not to have prevented the President and Council of Bombay from accepting a Proposition which promised so much more effectual a Conciliation of the Differences subsisting between them and the Ministers; and at the same Time accorded so perfectly with the declared Wishes of the Court of Directors. It was not forbidden by our Orders, for these professed only to prescribe the only Means which had occurred to us for the first of these Ends, nor had any Reference to a Case, which we neither foresaw nor imagined.

If the Intentions of that Presidency in this Instance are justified by the Act of Parliament, as I have proved; if they were such as the Company's Orders not only justified but required,

* Jowlbugharge is a Term which includes nearly all the Casts of Hindoos, the very lowest only being excepted.

which I have also proved; no Influences drawn by forced Implications from the Orders of this Government, can deprive them of their Re^titude, which they derive from such superior Warrants. In Truth, whatever Caule the President and Council, of Bombay have formerly given to this Government to charge them with a Want of due Attention to its Authority, nothing could be more unjust than to impute that Fault to them on this Occasion, if it be admitted, as it must, that the Resolution which they proposed to take was such as could not possibly wait the Sanction of this Government; as soon as it came in Contemplation before them, and before they had either formed the Plan of their Operations, or proposed the Advantages to be obtained by them, they instantly apprized us of it, and thereby furnished an Argument against themselves, to charge them with the Neglect of those essential Considerations, in their Precipitancy to communicate to us the first Suggestions of a Design of such Importance to the political Interests of the Company.

If the Board should agree in the preceding Resolutions, I am of Opinion that a Copy of them should be sent to the President and Council of Bombay, with an additional Declaration, That we deem them solely responsible to the Company and the Nation for all the Consequences of the Measures they have taken, or may take on this Occasion, without our Consent and Approbation; and that whereas they have not yet demanded of us any specific Supply, either of Men or Money, to support the Execution of the above Meaures, we are determined, that whatever Assistance we may be compelled to give them, by the Necessity of defending the Company's Possessions on that Coast, shall be strictly confined to the Objects of Defence; and that we will never encourage or support any Plan of Operations calculated to carry the Company's Arms beyond that Line without our Consent and Approbation first had and obtained, or without the express and specific Orders of the Company to that Effect; that when we receive the further Advices they promise to give us, of what is likely to be the Issue of this Busincls, we shall communicate to them our Opinion and Resolution thereupon.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Mr. Barwell—As a Division has unhappily arisen on the present Question, on the Measures adopted by the Government of Bombay, and the Responsibility of the Approbation expressed in the Votes of this Day, pointedly fixed on the approving Members; that it may not be supposed I admit in the least Degree the Objections that now appear upon the Proceedings, I adopt entirely the Governor General's Reasonings upon the Subject of them, and subscribe my Name as fully to his Minute, as if it had been written with my Assent and Participation.

Mr. Francis—Much might be said in Defence of those Opinions, which the Governor General has been pleased to canvass so minutely; but as the Argument would turn chiefly on the Construction of Words, on nice Distinctions in forming such Constructions, and probable Inferences deduced from thence, I shall not enter into it: I do not expect that such an Argument would be attended to at Home, nor do I think it affects the Principle on which a Question of the Magnitude of that which is now before us ought to be determined. I shall leave it to a higher Tribunal to determine, whether the Case of *imminent Necessity*, described by the Legislature, relates solely to Measures of Self defence, or includes all others, according to the Opinion, and at the Discretion of the subordinate Presidencies? and whether, when the Company say "That, if "from any Circumstance our Governor General and Council shall deem it expedient, they have no "Objection to an Alliance with Ragoba," they mean to refer that Question solely to *us*, or to subject it to a Sort of concurring Jurisdiction in the Government of Bombay? If they meant the last, it might have happened, that the Question would have received Two opposite Decisions; and that the inferior Jurisdiction might, by Acts done upon their own Principles, decide it against our Judgment and Resolutions. I shall also leave another Question untouched, viz. Whether the Case of Ragoba's Cast is an Object of such Importance to this Government, that we are to hazard a general War in India for the sake of preserving of it? I have but One more Observation to make upon the Governor's Minute, in Reply to my Objection to the Requisition made by the Presidency of Bombay for Military Assistance from that of Madras. He quotes a Letter from the Company, from which he concludes, that in the Opinion of the Court of Directors we are not entitled to forbid such Requisitions: I do not admit, that in any Case whatever, especially a Case of such great Importance as the present, Arguments are ever answered by Authorities; but I contend, that the Sense of the Court of Directors, even in the Paragraph so recited, does not stand in Opposition to the Opinion stated in my former Minute: It supposes, that the subordinate Presidencies may lawfully apply for Assistance to each other, "as the immediate Exigency of their Affairs may require, for Self-defence or Protection."

This

A P P E N D I X, N° 27, 28, and 29. N° 30.

This Case is included in that of the imminent Necessity stated by the Legislature; and I have never affirmed, that Self-defence and Protection did not authorize the subordinate Presidencies to take Measures tending to those Purposes only, without our previous Consent and Approbation.

Mr. Barwell—I beg the Occasion on which the Bombay Presidency made their Application to Mysore, the Disapprobation of this Government, the Materials on which the above Sentiments on the Court of Directors are expressed, may follow in this Place.

The Governor General—I believe it is expressed in the following Letter, written by this Presidency to Fort St. George, dated 7th September 1775.

Copy of a Letter to Fort St. George, dated the 7th September 1775.

Understanding from a Letter which we have received from the President and Council of Bombay, dated 13th July, that they have applied to you for a Reinforcement of 300 Europeans, and Two complete Battalions of Sepoys, to join their Army now in Quarters with Ragoba, we think it necessary to desire, that you will not comply with this Application, as we have judged it expedient to order that Presidency to withdraw their Army from the Service of Ragoba to their own Garrisons, and confine their Views and Operations to the Safety of the Company's Possessions, including Salsette; trusting that a secure and honourable Peace will be effected with the Ministerial Party by Colonel Upton, on his Arrival at Poona.

Mr. Francis—I beg Leave to move, that Notice may be taken, in the present General Letter, of the Supply of 6,000 Muskets and 4,000 Hand Grenades, furnished by the Presidency of Bombay to Hyder Ally, with our Request to them, that they will take it into their Consideration, and furnish us and the Presidency of Bombay with their Sentiments and Instructions thereupon.

Mr. Wheler assents.

Mr. Barwell—I do not know the Object of this Question: It appears to be suggested without Consideration, that this Information must already have been given to the Company by that Presidency; and to swell it into a Degree of Importance which the Subject does not merit, the Papers in course go Home with the general Intelligence from Bombay. I therefore am against the Motion.

Governor General—I object to the Motion. It may be mentioned in the General Letter, as a Proposition made, but not agreed to. This will bring it equally before the Notice of the Court of Directors, if an Extract be added from the Proceedings of the President and Council of Bombay, of so much as relates to it.

Mr. Francis—I assent to the Mode proposed by the Governor General.

Resolved, That the Motion be notified to the Court of Directors, as a Proposition having been made, but not agreed to.

A P P E N D I X, N° 30.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council in Bengal to the Court of Directors;—dated 4th February 1778.

Par. 7. IN our Letter by the Europa, dated 21st November, we mentioned the Reserve of the President and Council of Bombay, in their Communications to us: After waiting till the 26th ultimo, in Expectation of further Advices on the important Subjects which had raised our Anxiety, we received a Letter from them, dated the 7th December, enclosing a Copy of the Proposals brought by Mr. Mostyn from the Ministers, for an Accommodation with Ragoba, which he declined to accept, chiefly because he did not think they contained an adequate Provision for his personal Safety.

8. On the 29th January we received another Letter from Bombay, dated 12th December, advising us of Overtures which had been secretly made by an Agent, in the Names of Succaram Baboo, Moraba Furnese, Bucherba Proonder, and Tuccojee Holcar, to Mr. Lewis, Mr. Mostyn's Substitute at Poona, for the Assistance of the English in replacing Ragonaut Row in the Administration of the Affairs of the Maratta Government. The President and Council considering these Overtures as made by the Maratta State, have agreed, that if the above Persons should join in a formal Application to them, for the Company's Assistance in favour of Ragonaut Row, they would immediately grant it, and directed Mr. Lewis to communicate their Intentions to the Party with all possible Caution and Secrecy.

9. We

A P P E N D I X, N° 30, 31.

Ms. 26 Jan.
29 D^o.
2 Feb.
or Appendix
27, 28, 29.

9. We immediately assembled for the Consideration of Proceedings of so much Importance; and after the most attentive Deliberation, we came to the following Resolutions; but as they were not taken without much Debate, and Variety of Opinions, we think it necessary to recommend to your Perusal the Consultations noted in the Margin, which are transmitted a Number in the Book Packet.

10. In the Consultation 2d February, you will find a Motion from one of our Members, to notify to you a Supply of 6,000 Muskets and 4,000 Hand Grenades, which have been furnished by the President and Council of Bombay to Hyder Ally, &c. but as we did not agree to mention it in the Terms of the Motion, we beg Leave to quote the Letter from Bombay, wherein this Transaction is imparted to us; viz. "We enclose for your Notice, Copy of a Letter from the Nabob " Hyder Ally to our Resident at Onore: We have to observe, that we supplied him with the " Muskets therein mentioned by Permission from the Honourable Company, for the Purchase of " Sandal Wood and Pepper in his Dominions."

11. We have just received a Letter from the President and Council at Fort Saint George, dated 16th ultimo, which contains a State of the Force and Resources of that Presidency, with many other Informations of Consequence; we have therefore caused a Copy of it to be added to our last Consultation for your Notice.

12. In this Letter the President and Council have given us, as nearly as they could judge of them, an Account of the probable Views, Interests, and Connections of the different Country Powers adjacent to your Possessions on the Coast, with such Informations as they had received respecting them. It appears that the Attention of Hyder Ally is wholly occupied in the Defence of his own Dominions against his natural Enemies the Marattas, but that he has a Vackel at Pondicherry, who receives Encouragement from the Governor, Monsieur Bellecombe, and that this Gentleman maintains a Correspondence with Hyder, by which he endeavours to secure him to the Interests of the French.

13. The Maratta Army opposed to Hyder's was greatly superior to his; but he surprized them in the Night of the 5th ultimo near the Banks of the Jungabuddra, drove them across that River, and obtained a considerable Advantage over them.

14. We are further informed from Madras, of an Application which they had received from the President and Council at Bombay to hold in Readiness 200 Europeans, a Battalion of Sepoys, and 50 Artillery, to march to Anjengo if their subsequent Engagements should make it necessary to require them. Although the President and Council at Fort Saint George did not think proper to comply with this Request, we have informed them of our Resolution to afford the Countenance and Support of this Government to the Undertaking at Bombay in favour of Ragoba, provided it be confined to the Objects which have been defined; and we have earnestly recommended it to them to grant a Reinforcement of Troops if the Application should be renewed.

We are,

Fort William,
4th February 1778.

Honourable Sirs,
Your faithful humble Servants,
Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X, N° 31.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM THE GOVERNOR GENERAL AND COUNCIL IN BENGAL, TO THE COURT OF DIRECTORS, DATED THE 16TH FEBRUARY 1778.

Mr. Deptt.
" "

Honourable Sirs,

1. IN Addition to our Advices from this Department, dated the 4th instant, by the Kingston, we have only to transmit Duplicates of the Letters from Bombay, therein referred to, with our Proceedings on the Subject, and Copies of subsequent Advices, which we have received from that Presidency, and from Mr. Mostyn since his Return to Poona. These do not contain any Account of the further Progress of the Negotiations begun with Mr. Lewis, and we are very defective in many essential Points of Information, but we can collect from them that the Government of Poona was in great Confusion. Mr. Lewis refers to a Letter which he wrote to the President at Bombay, on the 12th December, for the Purport of a Conversation which had passed between Moraba Furnese and him, previous to the Receipt of the Orders of the 12th December; this we conclude is of some Importance, as it must either have confirmed or disapproved the Authority of the first Overtures made for the Company's Assistance; but by some Accident we are not furnished with a Copy of it. A Day

A P P E N D I X, N° 31, 32.

Day had been fixed by Moraba for another Interview, but in the mean Time he suddenly retired from Poona, to avoid a Scheme which had been laid by Nana for seizing him, and it appears that he turned as suddenly: We are unacquainted with the Cause, though Mr. Lewis mentions a Conjecture, that it was at the Invitation of Siccaram Baboo, who had it in View to engage Nana if possible in the Association for introducing Ragoba.

2. On the 14th December, News was received at Poona of the Death of Ram Rajah, the Sovereign of the Maratta State, which was likely to encrease the Confusion among the Ministers, by the different Interests which would be formed in the Nomination of a Successor. And Nana was further disconcerted, by a Report which arrived soon after of the Defeat of the Maratta Army under Jarry Punt, in an Engagement with Hyder Ally: He immediately went to Poona in consequence of, where he had a long Conference with Siccaram Baboo.

3. This is the Substance of the Intelligence we have been able to collect from Mr. Mostyn's Letters; and he accounts for the Imperfection of it, by informing us that Guards had been placed by Nana's Orders upon the English Residency, which notwithstanding his Remonstrance to the Durbar, did not at the Date of his Letter been withdrawn.

We are,

Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful

humble Servants,

Warren Hastings,

Richard Barwell,

P. Francis,

Edw^d Wheler.

Fort William,
16th February 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 32.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 6th January 1778.

EARLY this Morning Mr. Mostyn set off for Poona.

P R E S E N T,
The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
The W. John Carnac, Esquire, Daniel Draper,
Nath. Stackhouse, Will^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ramsay.

Read, and approved, our last Consultation of the 2d Instant.

The President lays before us Two Letters from Mr. Lewis, One from Mr. Mostyn, and One from Moraba Furneese, all entered hereafter.

It is resolved, That nothing further can be done in the Business, unless Siccaram Bappoo joins in making Application to us for the Assistance of the Company to reinstate Ragoba; as we cannot think of acting in any Manner contrary to the late Treaty, unless by express Desire of the principal Person with whom it was concluded.

Adjourned.

Edw^d. Ravenscroft, Secy.

W^m Hornby,
W^m Ashburner,
D. Draper,
N. Stackhouse.

The Gentleman has at last begun to open himself, by a Message late this Evening, and I will run all Risques of having a Meeting with him To-morrow or next Day: He wants to know how many Troops we will supply, and if we will supply warlike Stores.

Dated 6th January
1778.

I am this Moment come from Moraba. He began the Discourse by telling me, that he was ready to join us for the Purpose your Honour knew of: But, says he, if we once enter into it, let us go through heartily, and let there be no Excuse on the Part of the Governor and Council afterwards,

R.E.P. VI.



A P P E N D I X, N° 32.

wards, that they have received Orders to make Peace, as they did before. I told him, that I thought the most likely Method to avoid such Orders, would be for the Four Gentlemen formerly mentioned, to send such a Letter as was promised me. To this however he objected, saying, that he would not make use of any other Person's Name than his own; and that he could himself bring Twenty thousand Men into the Field, if your Honour and the Board thought proper to go upon the Business in his Name. He further added, that if the Council would declare their Resolution to all conformable to what he now said, he would open himself entirely to me, and tell me how many more Troops he could bring, and on whom he could depend for Assistance: But, says he, it will be improper to explain myself further, until I know their Answer; for the Business must be managed in my Name only. He also said, that if the English and he once undertook the Affair in a proper Manner, he would answer to settle the Government in Three Months Time. Before I left this Gentleman, he made me promise, that I would write your Honour the above before I went to sleep, and to request that an Answer might be sent in Five Days from this Date, if possible.

Dated the 9th January 1778.

Honourable Sir,

I addressed you the 7th at Night from Compolee, enclosing Two Letters I met on the Road from Mr. Lewis; I make no Doubt of their having reached you. As there was nothing in their Contents to prevent my proceeding, I set out the next Morning, and arrived here Yesterday about 10 o'Clock. Nothing occurred on the Road, nor did the Government take the least Notice of me, not even by a complimentary Message, though they were publicly advised of my coming into Town that Morning by Mr. Lewis. Immediately on my Arrival I gave the necessary Notice both to Nanah, Mado Row, and Byrow Punt, and requested of the former that I might be favoured with an Audience as soon as possible, not only to acquaint them with the Issue of the Business they had entrusted me with, but also the Business I was charged with from your Honour, &c. He replied, that that Day was their Sancrant, and that To-day was an unlucky one; he therefore could not see me, but To-morrow would consider of it. I know no Remedy but Patience, but will use every Endeavour to procure one as soon as I can; until when I shall defer addressing the Board, and also forwarding the public Packet for the Governor General and Council; not only that I may inform them with the Determination of the Durbar, but it may be altogether unnecessary from the Letter you will receive from Mr. Lewis, and a Letter I now forward you from Moraba. This Letter I procured early this Morning, and will I hope convince you of his Sincerity, and also confirm what Mr. Lewis has wrote you. I wish to God you may be able to undertake the Business; such another Opportunity may never again offer. Sacram I firmly believe is concerned, and will assist privately all he can, but I am afraid will not yet be brought to give it under his Hand. Moraba's Desire, that the Business may be done in his Name, is I judge to prevent Buchaba laying a prior Claim to the Duanship, who is appointed by the Rajah, has never yet himself been the acting Man, and indeed is unequal to the Charge in these troublesome Times.

Yesterday being a Holiday, I could get little or no Intelligence; and indeed the strict Watch that is kept over every one belonging to us will make it very tedious, as it can only be done by Night. You may depend on my being as expeditious as possible.

Permit me to entreat an early Answer to Moraba's Letter, and that it will be such as not to disappoint all his Hopes of concluding Matters through us.

I remain, with real Esteem,

Poona,

- 11th January 1778.

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

Tho' Mostyn.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 19th January 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have the Pleasure of informing you that I arrived here the 10th, in the Morning, without meeting any Obstruction, though not the least Compliment was paid me on the Part of the Durbar, notwithstanding they had been publicly advised by Mr. Lewis of my Intentions to enter the Town that Morning; immediately on my Arrival I gave the proper Notice to the Durbar, and requested an Audience as soon as possible. Nannah sent me Word that that Day being a Holiday, and the next an unlucky Day, he could not consider of it before the 12th. After repeated Messages I at last obtained an Audience on the 13th, at which were present Nannah Furnaze, Madi Row, Jada Row, Byroo Punt, and Hesforow, the Son of Mada Row, when I delivered the Letter from the Honourable the President to the Peshwa, sent some Time since to Mr. Lewis, but which Nannah had declined receiving from that Gentleman, unless conveyed to him through the Hands of Mada Row, Jada Row, and Byroo Punt. I at the same Time agreeable to your Instructions remonstrated in the strongest Terms on the Disrespect shewn to the Company by the Restrictions laid upon their Representative, and demanded a positive and speedy Answer to every Point of the Letter. To which Nannah replied, That the Durbar

would

A P P E N D I X, N° 32.

would give such an Answer as was usual with them; when I observed to him that none but a plain and direct Answer would be received, I then told the Durbar that no Answer had been sent to a former Letter from the Honourable the President; on which they observed, it required no Answer, that Letter being only a Reply to some Letters the Peshwa had written him; but on my reminding them that it contained a Demand for a Duffuck for the Two Gentlemen who came to us from the French, they pretended to recollect it; and said they would likewise give their Answer thereto in Writing. I then acquainted them with the Issue of my Commission to Ragoba, to which I received no Reply.

After I had taken my Leave of the Durbar, knowing Byroo Punt has great Influence with Nannah, I repeated to him the absolute Necessity of a speedy Answer to the above Letter, which he promised should be sent me in Two Days; however from the Knowledge I have of the Dilatoriness of this Government, not chusing to place entire Confidence in this Promise, I wrote under the 14th of Mhado Row, Jada Row that I hoped he would procure it me as soon as possible; and sent a Message of the same Kind to By'oo Punt. They replied that they had spoken to Nannah on the Business after I had left him, who said it was necessary he should first consult with Sacram Bappoo; in consequence of which the enclosed Correspondence ensued; from which your Honour, &c. will plainly perceive Nannah is using every Artifice to evade giving an Answer; I shall therefore write to the Peshwa, in Hopes of procuring some Reply; and in the mean Time beg Leave to observe that the Chowkeys are still continued. I should have done myself the Honour of addressing you before, but was induced from Promises made me by the Durbar to wait a few Days in Hopes of being able to transmit you their Answer to the Honourable the President's Letter.

On the Evening of my Arrival, I endeavoured to bring Moraba to an Explanation, in consequence of which he sent me a Letter for the Honourable the President, which was forwarded the 11th; and notwithstanding I have since frequently urged him, he declines being more explicit until in Answer thereto.

The following, according to the best Information I have been able to procure, is the State of the different Armies: Moodjee Buncello is still at Lackanwaddy Gaut, about 30 Coss to the Eastward of Auringabad; Holkar continues at his own Village of Banbjam, and by his refusing to see Nannah, or any one he may send, appears to be determined on not coming to any Terms with him; Madjee Scindy is endeavouring to raise Contributions on Janojee Patancar's Jaghire, near Rimutpore, has had a Skirmish with him, in which Janojee was killed; this Action it is said has caused great Discontent amongst all the Maratta Officers in Scindy's Camp.

Hurry Punt has again been defeated by Hyder, and has retreated to Panchmal, on the Northern Bank of the Kistna, in Hopes of receiving some Assistance from Downsa, who is encamped at Narrain Pent, about Twelve Cots from Hurry Punt. Hyder's Army has crossed to the Northward of the Tongebodias in Pursuit of him. The Durbar are using every Endeavour to persuade the Nizam (who, on account of a Wedding in his Family, has not yet left Hyderabad, as was reported) to join them against Hyder, but which he refused doing till they comply with the Promises made him when he joined them against Ragoba, which are, their delivering him the Forts of Ashur and Amadanagur. I have Reason to believe this Intelligence can be depended on, having received it from several Hands.

On my entering the Town, observing several Parties of Horse encamped about it, I sent People to make Inquiry of the Numbers; from whose Reports I find there are from 8 to 10,000, belonging to different Officers.

Monsieur de Corcelle, the French Gentleman who took our Protection, having received Assurances from People in whom he could confide, that he had nothing to fear, on the 14th at Night delivered me a Letter, Translate of which is inclosed, and immediately left the Factory.

I am, with Respect,

Poona,
16th January 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servant,
Thomas Mostyn.

A P P E N D I X, N° 33.

Bomday Secret Consultations, the 19th January 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
The W. John Carnac, Esquire, Daniel Draper,
Nath. Stackhouse, Will^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ramsay.

READ, and approved, our last Consultation of the 14th Instant.

The President informs us, that he has received a Message from Ragoba, acquainting him that Advice has been sent him from Poona, that an Agreement has actually been concluded in Writing for giving Row Dund or Choul to the French, but that the Sunnuds have not yet been issued.

It being of the utmost Importance to ascertain the Truth of this Intelligence, Mr. Mostyn must be directed to spare neither Pains nor Expence for that Purpose; and to send immediate Advice of the Result of his Enquiries to us, and the Governor General and Council.

From the uniform Conduct of the Poona Government for a long Time past, and from the repeated Intelligence we have received, it is past a Doubt that some Agreement has been concluded between them and the French, of which indeed the Governor General and Council appear to be convinced, by their Letter of the 20th October. — We think it very probable that the Intelligence sent by Ragoba may be true; and more particularly from the Circumstance of a French Gentleman having been landed at Choul the 30th ultimo, from a Vessel directly from Pondicherry, who may have had some Commission from Mr. Belcombe the Governor, which may have occasioned the Cession of that Place. The Consequences are of such a ruinous Nature to the Interest of the Company, that it is resolved to send instant Advice of the Intelligence we have received to the Governor General and Council; and to ask them expressly, and demand an explicit Answer, whether in case a Body of French should arrive and take Possession of Choul, or we should receive certain Advice of such a Measure being intended, we are to suffer them to proceed without Interruption, or to use our Efforts to prevent such a Settlement from taking place?

It is our fixed and deliberate Opinion, which we think it necessary to record for our own Justification, and to make the same known to the Governor General and Council, that nothing but a Change in the present Administration at Poona can secure the Company from the Dangers and bad Consequences of an Alliance between the French and the Marattas, and that there is no other Method to avert the impending Evils but by the Company's immediately taking a decisive Part.

Read the Letter received this Morning from Mr. Mostyn.

We think Monsieur de Corcelle quitting our Protection, appears a very extraordinary Circumstance, after what has passed; but we hope during his Residence with Mr. Lewis, he has not made himself Master of any Intelligence of Consequence; Mr. Mostyn must send hither and to Bengal a Copy of his original Letter.

Mr. Mostyn must be directed to send Advice of every material Circumstance to Bengal, at the same Time he does to us, and particularly respecting the French, whereby much Time will be saved.

Adjourned.

Edw^d Ravenscroft, Secretary.

W^m Hornby,
John Carnac,
D. Draper,
N. Stackhouse,
W^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ramsay.

A P P E N D I X, N° 34.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 20th January 1778.

SIGNED the following Letters to Mr. Mostyn, and the Governor General and Council;

Sir,

Since we wrote you the 14th Instant, we have received your Letter, dated the 16th:

Monsieur Corcelle's quitting our Protection, appears an extraordinary Circumstance after what has past; but we hope, during the Time he lived amongst the English, so much Caution was used, that he did not make himself Master of any Intelligence of Consequence; we however direct that you transmit to us and to the Governor General and Council a Copy of his original Letter.

We have been informed by a Message from Ragoba, that the Durbar has actually agreed, by a written Instrument, to put the French in Possession of Choul, but that the Sunnud is not yet issued; and as it is of the utmost Importance to ascertain the Truth of this Circumstance, we direct, that you spare neither Pains nor Expence for this Purpose; and send instant Advice of the Result of your Enquiries, both to us and the Gentlemen at Bengal, to whom you will punctually transmit every Intelligence of Importance, particularly respecting the French, at the same Time you write to us; whereby much Time will be saved.

We learn that a French Gentleman from Pondicherry landed at Choul the 30th ultimo, and proceeded to Poona, which makes us the more apprehensive of the Truth of Ragoba's Information; you will therefore make all possible Enquiries respecting this Person and his Errand at Poona.

We are

Bombay Castle,
20th January 1778.

Your loving Friends,
William Hornby, &c.

Gentlemen,

Enclosed is Duplicate of our last Letter, dated the 3d Instant.

By the Intelligence we have since received from Poona, contained in the enclosed Papers, it appears that Moraba, most probably from Views of Ambition, insists on the Business being carried on in his Name only; upon which we immediately resolved, that nothing further could be done, unless Saccaram Bappoo, the Principal in the late Treaty, joined in making a formal Application to us; and we in consequence sent the necessary Orders to the Resident at the Durbar, as per Copy subjoined to the Letters from Poona.

We have sent Orders for the Recall of all the European Infantry from the Garrisons of Surat and Tannah; but from the Distance of Broach, and the Importance of that Province, we judged it would be imprudent to weaken that Garrison, and therefore continued it exactly upon the former Footing. We have also thought it improper to remove the Detachment of Artillery either from Surat or Tannah; the latter indeed is so contiguous, that we can always command its Service at an Hour's Warning.

We now have it in Contemplation to throw our whole Body of Infantry into One Battalion instead of Two, as the Companies are nearly reduced to a Third of their Complement.

On the 30th ultimo a French Gentleman landed at Choul, from a Snow commanded by a King's Officer, which had come direct from Pondicherry, and proceeded to Poona. On the 18th instant Ragoba sent a Message, acquainting us he had received Advice from Poona, that it had been agreed by a written Instrument, to give Choul or Row Dundah to the French, and that the Sunnud would be hereafter issued.

Combining the above Circumstances with Ragoba's Intelligence, we are very apprehensive that the French will soon be in Possession of Choul; and that the French Gentleman had some Commission from Monsieur Belcombe to the Durbar, which may have occasioned the Cession of that Place. We have however directed Mr. Mostyn to spare neither Pains nor Expence to arrive at the Truth on these Points, and to advise you instantly of the Result of his Enquiry.

It is also extraordinary, that Monsieur de Corcelle, whom you were before advised had quitted Monsieur St. Lubin, and taken our Protection, withdrew himself abruptly from our Factory, and returned to Monsieur de St. Lubin. He delivered a Letter on his Departure, a Translation of which, as sent us by the Resident, is now enclosed, and we have directed him to forward you a Copy of the Original.

After the Evidence already transmitted to you, it will be needless to insist further on the Certainty of some Agreement being actually concluded between the French and the Poona Government, of which indeed you seem fully convinced by your Letter of the 20th October. Neither are any Arguments necessary to prove the certain Injury, if not total Ruin which must ensue to the Company's Interests on this Coast, if the French are once established in a Port within 12 Miles from the Mouth of our Harbour. Our Duty to the Company, therefore, prompts us to ask you, and earnestly to request an immediate Reply, whether in case a Body of French should arrive to take Possession of Choul,

A P P E N D I X, N° 34, 35 and 37.

and we should receive certain Advice of such a Measure being intended, we are to suffer them to proceed without Interruption, or to use our Efforts to prevent such a Settlement from taking place?

It is our fixed and deliberate Opinion, and which we think it necessary to make known to you for our own justification, in case what we apprehend should happen, that nothing but a Change in the present Administration at Poona can secure the Company from the Dangers and bad Consequences of an Alliance between the French and the Marattas; and that there is no other Method to avert the impending Evils, but by the Company's immediately taking a decisive Part.

Mr. Mottyn arrived at Poona the 10th, and enclosed is Copy of the only Letter we have received from him, giving an Account of his Reception and first Audience. He has been directed punctually to transmit to you every Intelligence of Importance, and particularly respecting the Proceedings of the French.

We are, with Respect,
Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,
W^m Hornby, &c.

Bombay Castle,
20th January 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 35 and 37.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 23d February 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

THE Governor General having sent the following Proposition to the Secretary on Saturday Afternoon, with Directions to circulate it to the other Members of the Board, it was immediately sent round.

The Governor General proposes that the following Draft of a Letter be immediately written to the President and Council at Bombay, in Reply to their Advices now before the Board, by the Ravenworth, the Commander of which Ship he understands will leave Town this Evening. He at the same Time submits to the Consideration of the Board and for their Determination, the Propositions included in the Letter.

Gentlemen,

We have now to acknowledge the Receipt of Two Letters from you, dated the 3d and 20th ultimo, and Two from Mr. Mottyn under Date the 19th and 24th ultimo.

We refer you to our Letter of the 2d Instant, a Triplicate of which you will receive by this Ship, for our Resolutions passed on the Receipt of your Advices of the 12th December.

For the Purpose of granting you the most effectual Support in our Power, we have resolved to assemble a strong Military Force near Calpee, the Commanding Officer of which is to be ordered to march by the most practicable Route to Bombay, or to such other Place as future Occurrences and your Directions to him may render it expedient.

Although the Event of the Overtures which have been made to you yet remains doubtful, we cannot help being exceedingly alarmed at the Steps which are taking by the French to obtain a Settlement on the Malabar Coast so near to Bombay, and to establish a political Influence in the Maratta State, the immediate Object of which must be the Overthrow of your Settlement, and the future Consequences dangerous to the Company's Possessions in the other Parts of India. We are therefore of Opinion that no Time ought to be lost in forming and carrying into Execution such Measures as may most effectually tend to frustrate such dangerous Designs; especially as the Season is so far advanced that the Rains might set in before we could furnish you with any Military Assistance, if we waited for definitive Advices from you. We propose therefore to give immediate Orders for collecting the Force abovementioned. We shall direct it to march as soon as the Stores shall be provided, and the other necessary Preparations compleated, unless from any immediate Advices received from you we shall judge the Prosecution of this Design unnecessary.

We shall use every Precaution which can depend on our Care and Influence, for ensuring a safe and unmolested Passage to the Detachment, and obtaining regular Supplies of Provisions on its March; and we earnestly recommend to you to assist us in these Objects; for this Purpose we shall direct

A P P E N D I X, N° 35 and 37.

Direct the commanding Officer to advise you continually of his Progress and Wants, and shall place him under your Command from the Day on which he shall move with the Forces under his Charge.
We are, &c.

Fort William,
23d February 1778.

* P. S. Vide the Governor General's Motion hereafter entered.

Read the following Opinion delivered by Mr. Wheler.

I object to the Governor General's Letter, intended to be written to the President and Council of Bombay; because, supposing the Board had already resolved to grant that President and Council a Military Force equal to the effectual Support of one Part of the Maratta State against the other, which I do not think advisable, the Route which the Troops appointed for that Service are to take is neither fixed nor ascertained, but left to the future Determination of the Governor and Council at Bombay, or to the Pleasure of the commanding Officer; and more particularly because it is not, previous to the March of the Troops, in any Degree ascertained, that the reigning Powers through whose Dominions it shall ultimately be judged expedient for them to pass, are either in Union or Alliance with the India Company, or that they are disposed to give such Aid and Assistance to the Support of the Detachment, as the commanding Officer may from Time to Time require; without which Assistance and Security I am apprehensive we shall expose the Detachment to imminent Risque.

Upon the whole I am of Opinion, that the Plan now proposed for marching a small Detachment of Troops into a distant and remote Country, without first securing the Friendship and Alliance of the governing Powers, is contrary to all System, and will prove destructive in Practice.

To involve the Company in a Dispute with the French upon the Subject of Negotiations which are said to have been carried on for the Purpose of obtaining a Settlement on the Malabar Coast, and likewise for the Purpose of establishing a political Interest in the Maratta State, require a more minute Attention than the Time allotted will admit; nevertheless, that Part of the Governor's Letter which acquaints the Governor and Council of Bombay that "no Time ought to be lost in forming and carrying into Execution such Measures as may most effectually tend to frustrate such dangerous Designs," is in my Opinion extremely objectionable; because a Paragraph so loosely worded may involve not only the India Company, but likewise the English Nation, in a War with France; and because I do not think we should be justified in commencing Hostilities against the French for the avowed Purpose of depriving them of commercial Advantages said to be acquired by Treaty. If therefore the French have already obtained, or are likely to obtain Advantages from their Negotiations with the Maratta States, we should endeavour to counteract those Advantages by Negotiation, and not by Force; but above all, we ought to be particularly careful at this Time to render our Instructions to the Governor and Council of Bombay plain, distinct, and obvious, as not to afford them the small Plea or Pretence to become the Aggressors, by commencing Hostilities against the French; and as Mr. Moltyn has given it as his Opinion that no Agreement has yet been made between the Marattas and the French, I am induced to believe that it will require no great Ingenuity or Address to counteract their Intentions.

22d February 1778.

(Signed) Edw^d Wheler.

Governor General—I must beg Leave in this Place to reply in a very few Words to Mr. Wheler's Minute, which I think is grounded on a Misconstruction of my Motion: I have not formally proposed the Route which is to be taken, because the Formation of the Detachment, if it is to go, is the Object that requires an immediate Determination; but I do not propose that it should be left either to the commanding Officer or the President and Council of Bombay: I have already determined the Route in my own Mind; these I will mention verbally to the Board; I hope it is not necessary yet to put them on Record. I have had Opportunities of studying the Interests and Dispositions of the different Powers of Hindostan and the Decan, although we have had little Intercourse with them; and from the Knowledge which I have obtained, I believe the March from Calpee, at least as far as Burrampore, to be practicable and easy, and to lead through the Country of our Friends: Beyond that I cannot answer; but the Distance is so small, that I have no Doubt of making the Remainder of our Way good, whether it shall lead us to Poona, to Bombay, to Surat, or to Broach, ever by Force if it should be necessary. Mr. Wheler has said, that the following Paragraph in the Letter proposed to be written to Bombay is so loosely worded, that it may involve not only the India Company, but the English Nation, in a War with France; viz. "No Time ought to be lost in forming and carrying into Execution such Measures as may most effectually tend to frustrate such dangerous Designs." I should deserve to forfeit the Place I hold were I wantonly or studiously to engage this Government in Measures which should have such a Tendency, if it could be avoided. The Words which are above quoted are not the Words in which the Plan is described which we are to undertake, but they are the Grounds or Reasons on which the Plan is concluded. All the public Advices from Bombay and Poona, corroborated by Intelligence through other Channels, prove beyond a Doubt, that the French have already formed a close and intimate Connection with the Ruling Administration of the Maratta State; have obtained Possession of a Port, not a Port of Trade,

A P P E N D I X, N° 35 and 37.

but a Door for the Introduction of Arms and Troops into the Maratta Country, almost without Sight of Bombay; that they have promised a military Assistance to the Marattas, which whether expected from France, or from their Garrisons at the Isle of Mauritius, may in the Course of a few Months be landed on the Maratta Coast. The French already affect to speak of the Port of Choul as their own. I have informed the Board of an Express, which I have every Reason to believe has been lately sent by Mr. Chevalier to the Malabar Coast, addressed both to Monsieur Bellecombe and the Chevalier St. Lubin. I shall not be surprized if the next Month's Intelligence should inform us that Monsieur Bellecombe, the Chief of all the French Establishments in India, has made his personal Appearance at Poona. It is, and always has been my Opinion, and I believe that I have more than once expressed it on these Records, that if ever the French make any Attempts to regain their former Power and Influence in India, it will not be by a naval Armament, which I repeat is impracticable, but by the previous Possession of a political Establishment in the Dominions of some Country Power of the first Consideration. There are but Two Powers whose Alliance would avail them, Hyder Ally and the Marattas; the former will no Doubt, upon Principles of good Policy, keep upon good Terms with them, but will never attach himself so closely to them as to become their Dependent. The present Rulers of the Maratta State are precisely in that Situation that will make them greedily catch at the Offers of the French of their Alliance, and to make any Sacrifices to obtain it; and I lay it down as a Point incontrovertible, that if a Detachment of much less than 1000 Europeans, with Arms for disciplining a Body of Native Troops in the European Manner, shall have once obtained a Footing in the Maratta Country as the Allies of that Government, all the Native Powers of Hindostan united will lie at their Mercy, and even the Provinces of Bengal be exposed to their Depredations. The French therefore have now seized on the only Means by which they can ever become formidable to us in India; and it is to avert the dreadful Consequences of such a Design that I have proposed to strengthen the Hands of the President and Council of Bombay, and to enable them to counteract it. It is impossible to form a Plan completed for this Purpose, because it must depend upon Circumstances, and even in a great Measure upon the Operations of our Enemies; it must be left to the Presidency of Bombay, to whom nothing is necessary to be afforded on our Part but a Strength adequate to the Calls which they may have to exert it: I have therefore proposed that the Detachment which may be formed shall be ordered to march as soon as it is formed, to the Assistance of Bombay, and this I apprehend is all that is at present necessary. I do not propose that they should act against the French, but be ready to oppose any Designs of the French; to oppose any Designs of the Marattas, if the Marattas should prove our Enemies; or to assist the Marattas of that Part of the Maratta State with which we are in Alliance. There is nothing in this Intention that can possibly involve the Nation in a War with France, since the French are not the declared Object of the present Enterprize; and we have even the Authority of the Paishwa and Ministers themselves to affirm, that the French have no Connection or Concern in their Affairs, but have been received simply on the Footing of Hospitality, and that Civility which is due from one State to another.

Some Time will be required to form and equip the Detachment before it can march. It is not necessary to send any Instructions to the Governor and Council of Bombay respecting the Application to be made of this Reinforcement, until it shall have actually begun to move: But I shall have no Objection, and I think it highly proper, to enjoin them in the strictest Manner, that they do not on any Pretence become the Aggressors, by commencing Hostilities against the French, nor yet against the Marattas; but to continue to adhere, as they assure us they will do, to the strict Letter of the Treaty subsisting between the Company and the present Administration of the Maratta State. I never understood or supposed that a formal Grant by Sunnud has been made to the French of the Port of Choul, but it is notorious that the French are in Possession of that Port; and although Mr. Mostyn does declare, nearly in the Words made use of by Mr. Wheler, that a Person well and officially informed, had assured him that he did not believe there was any Agreement entered into between Monsieur St. Lubin and the Durbar; yet what he adds in the Words immediately following, prove that Mr. Mostyn himself did not mean by this Expression to contradict the Belief that an Agreement passed between Monsieur St. Lubin and Nana Furnese; his Words are as follows: "It therefore appears to me, that the Writing alluded to by my Superiors can be no other than the private Treaty between Monsieur St. Lubin and Nana Furnese, of which your Honour, &c. were informed under the 29th November." This Mode of Allusion implies, that Mr. Mostyn had not even a Doubt of the private Agreement which had passed between Nana Furnese and Monsieur St. Lubin.

Since writing the above, I have verbally mentioned the Precautions taken for securing a free and peaceable Passage for the Detachment whenever it shall march; we cannot wait for their Effects, because the Season will be too far advanced; but if in the Interval between the Orders which may be issued for forming the Detachment, and the Time proposed for the Commencement of its Operations, either the Advices which we may receive from Bombay shall render their March unnecessary, or any better Means can be suggested for obviating and frustrating the Designs of our Enemies; in either Case I will gladly agree to remand the Troops to their respective Corps; and as Mr. Wheler has said, that if the French had already obtained or are likely to obtain Advantages from their Negotiations with the Maratta State, we should endeavour to counteract those Advantages by Negotiation, and has even concluded with expressing his Belief, that it will require no great Ingenuity of Address to counteract their Intentions. I hope he will point out the Means by which a Negotiation of this Kind can be conducted with Success, and the Offers which may be made to induce

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37.

the Minister to cancel his Engagements with his new Allies, and to accept of the Friendship of the English Company in their Stead : I ask this not from any Desire of combating an Argument, but of obtaining either such Lights as may be afforded on that Side of the Question, and profiting by them for the Peace and easier Conduct of the Company's Affairs, on a clear Conviction that no Negotiation whatsoever will avail with the Powers of this Country that is not immediately and pointedly directed to their Interests or their Fears.

Mr. Wheeler—It is evident from the Explanation which the Governor has now given of his Letter, that no Part of my Minute was either grounded upon Error or Misconstruction. The Governor asserts, that the French are now in Possession of a Port, not a Port of Trade, but a Door for the Introduction of Arms and Troops into the Maratta Country, almost within Sight of Bombay. I request that the Governor will favour this Board with his Authority for that Assertion, and likewise explain what he means by " Possession."

The Governor General—I hope Mr. Wheler does not expect that I shall give up my Time to the Examination of all the voluminous Papers which have been written upon this Subject. That the French are in Possession of the Port of Choul, has been asserted in the Letters from Bombay and Poona ; in the Intelligence transmitted from the Nabob of Arcot ; in other Papers of Intelligence ; and it has been charged to the Minister, as I think, in Letters written from hence. The French Ships have been for near these Twelve Months past at Choul ; their Goods have been landed at Choul, and continued there when the last Advices were dispatched from thence. This Use of the Port is present Possession. The Sunnud or Grant can only give them Property.

Mr. Wheler—I certainly do not mean to give the Governor any unnecessary Trouble : I thought the Assertion a very extraordinary one, especially as I had not met with any Grounds for it upon the Company's Records : I do not consider the Landing of Goods, without Interruption for Twelve Months, as a Proof of Right, or Possession of a Port.

Governor General—Whenever these Minutes shall be read in England, the Company will be possessed of much more authentic Evidence than can be given here, either in Proof that the French are in Possession of Choul, or that they are not in Possession ; it is unnecessary therefore for me to continue to affirm my Belief of the Fact, nor will any Contradiction invalidate it.

Read the Minute delivered by Mr. Francis on the proposed Letter to Bombay, which was circulated on Saturday.

Mr. Francis—I disapprove of and object to every Part of the Letter proposed by the Governor General to be written to the Presidency of Bombay ; the Measure, which it states as resolved on, viz. " of assembling a Force at Calpee with conditional Orders to march to Bombay," has not yet been debated, or even proposed in Council ; much less have the Objections to which such a Step is liable, and the Consequences which may attend it, been duly considered : At present I have no Idea of any Arguments that can induce me to consent to the March of Four Battalions of Sepoys into the Heart of Hindostan, through an immense Tract of Country, in which we have no Alliance or Connection whatsoever ; no Magazines, nor a single Place of Strength to retreat to : I will not be answerable for the Consequences of hazarding a Detachment of our Troops, which we can very ill spare upon an Expedition in which they will probably be cut off, and for no Purpose but to support an offensive War, which I do not doubt will soon become general.

I beg Leave to say, that I am not at all alarmed at the Steps supposed to be taken by the French for obtaining a Settlement on the Malabar Coast. If the whole Story be not fabricated by Ragoba's Party, to answer particular Purposes, I have Mr. Mostyn's Opinion and Authority for believing that no Agreement has yet been made between the Marattas and the French, for putting the latter in Possession of Choul : The Intelligence comes from Ragoba, and Mr. Moltyne himself thinks there is no Foundation for it ; but admitting it to be true, what Right have we to make use of Force to prevent the French from obtaining such a Grant by Negotiation with an independant State ? Or will the Members of a fictitious, not a real, Majority of this Board, created by a casting Voice, run the Risk of engaging the Nation in a War with France, with no better Cause of Quarrel, than that they are forming an advantageous Treaty or Alliance with the Marattas ? If ours had been faithfully executed by us, and Ragoba dismissed from Bombay, the present Question would never have existed.

The President and Council of Bombay now ask us, Whether they shall use their Efforts to prevent such a Settlement taking place ? The Answer proposed by the Governor, tells them, that " in our Opinion, no Time ought to be lost in forming and carrying into Execution such Measures, as may most effectually tend to frustrate such dangerous Designs :" But what those Efforts and Measures are to be, remains to be explained. I conclude, that Military Operations against the French are intended, as our former Permission would hardly be necessary to authorize any others ; but the Bombay Presidency at this Moment tell us, that their Troops are nearly reduced to a Third of their Complement ; and before the intended Detachment could reach Bombay, even if they met with no Interruption in their March, the Rains would be set in ; they must march in the Months in which the hot Winds prevail with the greatest Violence in the upper Parts of India, and when they arrive, the Rains will prevent their acting.

In my Opinion, we ought to forbid the Presidency of Bombay from engaging in any offensive Operations whatsoever, and most particularly against the French : I shall reserve what I have farther to say on this Subject till the Meeting of the Council.

(Signed)

P. Francis.

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37.

Mr. Francis—No Member of this Council makes a freer Use of his Privilege of dictating Minutes at the Board, than the Governor General. I do not complain of it; on the contrary, I listen to him at all Times with Respect, with Temper, and Attention. Yet, as much Time is lost by delivering Opinions in this Manner, I must own I am unwilling to enter into a Discussion of all the supposed Facts, Assertions, and Arguments, stated in his last Minute. I fear it would be endless, and lead to no Conclusion. Public Advices not before the Board; general Intelligence from different Quarters; the supposed Notoriety of Facts not proved, and the Language supposed to be held by the French on Occasions where their Interests are concerned, may have Weight with the Governor General; they have none with me; nor will they, I presume, be deemed by our Superiors to be a solid and warrantable Foundation for the important Conclusions of Facts proposed to be drawn from them. One Instance of the Uncertainty of such Reports, as well as of the Facility with which they are introduced into our Debates as acknowledged Facts, appears in the Governor's repeated Assertion, that the French are now in Possession of Choul; of which the only Proof afterwards produced is, that some of their Ships have been admitted into the Port, and that they have been suffered to land their Goods there. Choul is said to be almost within Sight of Bombay; it would be very extraordinary, if the French had actually taken Possession of that Place, and the Presidency of Bombay had never mentioned to us a Fact from which they might have drawn Inferences so favourable to their present Designs. Mr. Mostyn's Letter of the 24th January, is the latest from that Part of India: So far from intimating that the French were in Possession of the Place, he denies the Existence of any Agreement for that Purpose, and says “he cannot think that Nanah Furnese will be so weak to do it “until the required Assistance arrives.” What may happen hereafter, I know not. My present Opinion and Resolution must be founded on Facts, and the authentic Intelligence of Facts, as they exist before me. I will not at present enter into any further Consideration of the Governor's Minute, but endeavour to bring back the Question, on which this Debate has arisen, to its original Ground.

The Danger, stated in the proposed Letter to Bombay, is said to arise from the Steps which are taking by the French to obtain a Settlement so near Bombay. The Means recommended for obviating that Danger, are “that no Time ought to be lost in forming and carrying into Execution such Measures as may most effectually tend to frustrate such dangerous Designs.” An Opinion given in this Form, is plainly an Instruction to the Bombay Council. The Objection urged against it is, that the Terms are not clear, direct, and specific; and that in the only rational Construction which can be given to them, they amount to an Authority from us to commence Hostilities against the French, to prevent their being put into Possession of Choul. The Case of an Attack of the French against any Part of the Company's Possessions is not supposed, nor is it made the Condition of our undertaking hostile Measures against them. The Letter, as it stands, refers only to their obtaining a Settlement on the Coast, and the Necessity of our preventing it at all Events. If the Instruction recommended by Mr. Wheler, be now added to the Letter, “That they do not on any Pretence become the Aggressors, by committing Hostilities against the French,” I shall very much approve of it, because I think it annihilates that Part of the Instructions to which I object; but then the Form of the Letter must be altered. I have nothing further to observe, but that the main Question, “whether a Detachment shall or shall not be sent, and of what Force it shall consist,” has not yet been debated or proposed; and that, before that Question is resolved, the Consideration of the Letter to Bombay is out of its Place.

The Governor General—When the severest Wounds are aimed at my public Character, it is hard to deny me the Privilege of Self defence; but if I have taken up more of the Time of the Board than I ought, in the Minute which I dictated at the Board this Day, I do not think that any Person who shall read the preceding Minute and attend to the Length of it, will think it reasonably prefaced with a Complaint of that Nature; I will however profit by the Suggestion; both the preceding Minutes of Mr. Francis, both that written and that dictated by him, shall remain unanswered, but by this short Remark, that they combat Propositions which I have never made, and quote Proofs as given by me even where I declared that I meant not to produce any; repeated Arguments and Assertions long since combated and refuted, and employed the Attention of the Board on a verbal Disputation; for the Whole that is said and repeated of the Passage quoted from my Minute by Mr. Wheler, is really such. The Propositions which were intended to follow the last Minutes of the Board in the Military Department, and which related to the Strength of the intended Detachment, and the Manner in which it should be formed, have been sent to the Military Secretary, and will be sent in Circulation to the other Members of the Board, whose Opinions may be more deliberately given by the same Mode. It is neither my Wish, nor did I introduce the Practice, to spin out the Time of the Board in desultory and indefinite Argumentations.

Mr. Francis—I do not know that any Wounds whatsoever have been levelled at the Governor, or that his public Character could possibly be in question in this Debate. I submit to Judgment, whether I have or have not stuck close to the Measure proposed for Deliberation. One Thing I must beg Leave to explain, because I should be sorry to remain under the Imputation of a Failure in respect to the Governor General, or any Member of this Board. The Notice I took of the Length of his Minute, arose from some Words which he himself let fall in his Answer to Mr. Wheler, “That he hoped that “it was not expected he should give his Time to the Examination of voluminous Papers, which have “been written on this Subject.” It appeared to me that the Question did not lay a Foundation for that Answer. I shall be ready to consider the Papers when they are sent in Circulation. That Mode

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37.

conducting Business is convenient in Matters of less Importance, and I have no Objection to it; but in a Case of this very great Consequence I hope the Resolution, whatever it may be, will be taken by Council.

The Governor General—If the Words I used in my Reply to Mr. Wheler could contain any Subject of Offence, I suppose Mr. Wheler was the most competent Judge of it, and did not require any other Person to resent it on his Behalf. I meant those Words only as an Excuse for not replying to the Question which he put to me, and do assure him that they were dictated with Temper, and with that Respect to his Character from which I never yet departed in any Debate.

Since Mr. Francis objects to the Mode which I proposed for collecting the Sentiments of the Members of the Board, on the Propositions which I mentioned that I had sent to the Secretary in the Military Department, although it was in Deterrence only to the Objections which had been urged by himself against Minutes dictated at the Board, that I proposed to collect the Opinions of the Members in Circulation; I now bring them before the Board, desiring only that they may be demanded, with the Debates and Opinions given upon them, to the Military Department.

Mr. Francis—I consider myself as a Party to every Question proposed for the general Information of the Board, let it come from whom it will, and of course interested in the Answer to it. My Remark was made on my own Account. I did not presume to speak for any other Member of the Board.

Mr. Barwell—The Length of this Debate has to me been quite unexpected; and I have declined taking a Part in it, because it is no more than a Repetition of what has already passed up in the Subject of the general Interests of the Company, in influencing the Durbar of Poona. The Votes and Resolutions on the 2d Instant are, or are not, to be supported. They stand at present binding on the Council; and any Attempt to prevent their Operation or defend them, is simply subjecting the Company to the ill Consequences of Miscarriage in a Point extremely interesting to their Affairs; and from the Responsibility of which Miscarriage I hold myself exempted, should it in Fact, as I apprehend it will, arise from the Difficulties thrown in the Way of the executive Power. Whatever Measures in Prudence and Policy are proposed upon the Votes that are already passed, ought not necessarily to involve the Propriety or Impropriety of these Votes. That Question is dismissed totally, and the new one becomes of a very different Nature, whether you will baffle the Powers of the Government, or give way to them. I agree to the latter.

Mr. Francis—I understand it to be conformable to the Sentiments of the Board, that the President and Council of Bombay should be restrained from commencing Hostilities against the French. I therefore propose, that the following Paragraph may be added to the Letter now resolved

on:

" We enjoin you in the strictest Manner, that you do not, on any Pretence, become the Aggressors, by commencing Hostilities against the French nor against the Marattas; but that you continue to adhere to the strict Letter of the Treaty subsisting between the Company and the present Administration of the Maratta State."

Governor General—As the preceding Motion is taken from the Words of my own Minute, I wish that it may be entered complete, with the Addition of the following Words, after the Word "adhere," "as you assure us you will do." As the Letter is concluded and partly signed, the proposed Addition can only be made in a Postscript; but I think it will appear too abrupt in the above Form; and would therefore propose the following Introduction and Amendment.

" As we have no Property or Pretensions to Property in the Port of Choul, we cannot authorize you to use any overt Measures for preventing the French from forming an Establishment at that Place, however dangerous their Neighbourhood may be to your Presidency. This must be effected by other Means; that is, by an Appeal to that Power which alone can give them the Right of Possession. We think it necessary also to add the following Injunction; that you do not, on any Pretence, become the Aggressors, by commencing Hostilities against the French directly, nor against the Maratta State; but that you continue to adhere, as you assure us you will do, to the strict Letter of the Treaty subsisting between the Company and the present Administration of the Maratta State."

Mr. Francis—I acquiesce.

Agreed, That the Postscript proposed by the Governor General be accordingly added to the Letter to Bombay.

N° 37.

The Governor General lays before the Board for their Consideration, the following Reply from Brigadier General Stibbert, to the Questions proposed to him the 2d Instant, with his Minute upon it, containing Five Propositions, which he had sent to the Military Secretary, intending that they should be circulated by him,

Honourable

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

In Compliance with your Desire, I now beg Leave to offer you my Sentiments, " upon the Pro.
priety of augmenting the Sepoy Establishment, by new Levies of Thirty Private to each Com.
pany, and making the Strength of each Battalion One thousand Men complete.
" Also upon the Means of supplying the Presidency of Bombay with a Military Force, and the
Number which may be spared from this Establishment."

With respect to the First, it is my Opinion, that augmenting the Sepoy Battalions to One thousand strong, would be improper, and at the same Time not answer the Ends proposed from it; for the following Reasons :

1st. By being increased to the above Number, they would be too unwieldy a Body to manoeuvre and move together without Confusion in the Field, and with that Celerity and Compactness which is requisite, and which ought to be particularly attended to in the Formation of all Bodies of Troops, but more especially in the Sepoy Corps, amongst whom, in Time of Action, it is well known to every Officer who has served with them, that it is with the utmost Difficulty Regularity can be preserved, even in the best-disciplined Battalions.

2d. By increasing the Battalions to the Number proposed, would make them larger Bodies than are required for the different Services for which they are generally detached and sent out upon, particularly in the Company's Provinces. This could only be remedied by breaking the Battalions, which would introduce great Confusion into the Service, and be attended with many Disadvantages, but above all be greatly prejudicial to their Discipline, and take off from that Responsibility which every Captain has for the Regularity and good Order of his Corps.

3d. There, where a larger Number of Men are required than the present Strength of the Battalions, or with the small Augmentation that I shall propose, it will seldom happen that a Thousand Men will be sufficient for the Service; for in such Cases generally Two Battalions, and sometimes Three, are necessary to be detached, to prevent every Possibility (as far as Prudence and human Foresight can do it) of a Failure.

4th. To strengthen the foregoing Arguments, give me Leave to observe, that the Honourable the Court of Directors, from their Directions respecting the European Regiments, seem to have adopted the same Opinion, that a Thousand Men are too large a Body for one Battalion; and it is to be presumed they did not form their Resolutions thereupon without first taking the Advice of the General Officers now in England, who have served in this Country.

But though I am of Opinion that the Battalions cannot with Propriety be raised to One thousand strong, for the Reasons I have urged, I think they may with Utility be augmented from their present Establishment of Seven hundred to Seven hundred and Eighty, Rank and File; that is, from 3 Havaldars, 3 Naicks, and 64 Private, to 4 Havaldars, 4 Naicks, and 70 Private each Company. This is the same as to Number, excepting a Colourman, who ranked as Havaldar, as the Companies stood Rank and File upon the old Establishment; and is as large a Body as ought at any Time to be formed into One Battalion, and that can act together with Force and Advantage.

By this Augmentation an Increase will be made upon the whole 30 Battalions, attached to Brigades, now in the Pay of the Company, of 2,400 Men, Rank and File, equal to Three Battalions, which may be drafted as the Exigencies of the Service may require, and their Numbers supplied by fresh Recruits, without being much felt by their respective Corps. My Reason for proposing One additional Havaldar and Naick to each Company, is, that the Number now allowed to the Companies, as they stand at present, is not found upon many Occasions sufficient for the Duties of the Battalion; besides, these Men, whenever Draughts are wanted, will be ready to go with them: It will be moreover enlarging the Door of Preferment, and giving additional Encouragement to Emulation, a Matter highly necessary to be attended to amongst the lower Ranks, and Sepoys. No Augmentation will be required of the Officers of higher Rank, holding Warrants; a small Addition of Pay given to the Jamadars, would not be improper, as what they receive at present is not sufficient to support them in such a Manner as to keep them from associating with the lower Ranks and Private Men, and of Course so as to be able to keep up that Authority which they ought to maintain in their Battalions.

For supplying the Presidency of Bombay with a Military Force, I would recommend to the Board, that Four Battalions of Sepoys be immediately drafted for this Service from the Four Brigades, viz. One from each; and that these Battalions be formed under the Inspection of the several commanding Officers of Brigades, by an equal Proportion of Drafts, of One Non-warrant Officer and Ten Private from each Company of the Three established Brigades, which will furnish a Body of 770 Rank and File from each Brigade, and be within Ten Men of the proposed Number of Rank and File, for a Battalion, which may be recruited. The Subadars and Jemadars, for this new Battalion to be appointed by the Colonel of the Brigade, from such Jemadars and Havaldars of the Seven Battalions as are most deserving of Preferment; Attention being had to Seniority and Length of Services, as far as it can be done with Propriety. The Battalion to be formed from the temporary Brigade in the following Proportion, viz. Seven Battalions to furnish Eight Non-warrant Officers and 80 Private each, and the Two remaining Battalions, Seven Non-warrant Officers and 70 Private each; which together will make a Body of 770 Rank and File, the same as to be drafted from the other Brigades. The Warrant Officers to be preferred and appointed from the Jemadars and Havaldars

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37.

Havaldars of most Merit, in the same Manner as already mentioned should be done from the established Brigades.

To furnish these Four Battalions with European commissioned and non-commissioned Officers, and also to give a due Proportion thereof to the temporary Brigade, which I think is highly necessary, I would advise that the Battalions, in the established Brigades should be reduced from their present Establishment, of Captain Commandant, 10 Subaltern Officers, One Serjeant Major, and 10 Serjeants, to One Captain Commandant, Six Subalterns, and Six Serjeants, including the Serjeant Major. By this Reduction of commissioned and non-commissioned Officers, 84 Subalterns and 105 Serjeants will be taken from the established Brigades were they complete, which will be more than the Number wanted to give an equal Proportion of both to the temporary Brigade, and the new Battalions to be raised for the Bombay Presidency. The Number of Subalterns and Serjeants which I have here proposed that the Battalions of the established Brigades should be reduced to, I would also recommend to be the fixed Establishment in future for every Battalion (the Militia Battalions excepted) throughout the Service. This Number is calculated so as to have One Subaltern Officer and One Serjeant to be posted in Time of Action, or to fend out upon Service, with each Grenadier Company, and the same to each Grand Division of the Battalion, composed of Two Companies, which, with the Captain and Native Officers, are fully sufficient for leading on the Men, and every other kind of Duty.

The Establishment of European commissioned and non-commissioned Officers, fixed by the late Lord Clive for a Battalion of Sepoys, when he was Governor and Commander in Chief of this Presidency, and when he regimented and brigaded the Troops in the Year 1765, was 1 Captain, 2 Lieutenants, 2 Ensigns, 1 Serjeant Major, and 4 Serjeants. It was afterwards in the Year 1770 ordered to be 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 3 Ensigns, 1 Serjeant Major, and 4 Serjeants; and in the Year 1773 augmented to 1 Captain, 5 Lieutenants, 5 Ensigns, 1 Serjeant Major and 10 Serjeants, as it stands at present; but this latter Establishment has been proved by Experience to add no Advantages either of Discipline or otherwise, to the Battalion. The Serjeants, more than what are sufficient to drill the Recruits, or the Number to be posted as I have mentioned, are entirely lost to the Service, in being taken from the Regiments and put into the Sepoy Corps. Besides which, it is morally impossible for the Regiments to supply the Number of Serjeants, that are now wanted for the Sepoy Corps, even upon a lower Establishment than Eleven to each Battalion, without selecting out all the best Men, and promoting a great many who are totally unfit for the Station, and who can only be rendered useful by being kept in the Ranks.

The Four Battalions I have proposed to be formed by Drafts from the Four Brigades, are, with Two Field Pieces attached to each, full as great a Force as I think can well be spared of disciplined Troops from this Presidency, for the Service of the Presidency of Bombay, keeping at the same Time in View the Defence and Security of the Provinces of Bengal and the Vizier's Dominions, which altogether form an Extent of Country, for the Defence of which, in case of a War or Troubles, but particularly of an European War, the Force we have at present on Foot would in my Opinion be rather inadequate, so as to give Protection in every Part, and repel the different Attacks that may be made at the same Time by the Country Powers and a foreign Enemy. Europeans either of Artillery or Infantry can on no Account be spared, as may be seen by the Returns of the Army.

The great Difficulty which has been ever found in prevailing on the Sepoys to embark on board of Ship, and the great Desertions that have always happened when this Mode of tranporting them has been adopted, render it necessary, as well as on account of their Numbers, to consider of the most eligible Method of sending the above Detachment by Land.

There are only Two Routes by which this can properly be done; one by the Way of Cuttack, and through the Decan; the other from the Western Provinces by the Way of Calpee, Narva, Eugene, Brampoor, &c. The latter at Narvar falls into the great public Road from Deihy to the Decan, Surat, &c. and is much preferable to the former, both from its Practicability (as I believe) for Cannon, and on account of the Shortness of its Distance from the upper Stations of our Army. But the March of a Body of Troops with Safety and Dispatch by this Road, or any other, can only depend upon the Friendship and Assistance, which they may be assured of receiving from the Princes and Powers possessing the Country through which they must pass.

The greatest Part of the Country lying between the District of Bundelcund and the River Nerbudda towards the South-west and Eugene, is at present in Possession of the Two Maratta Chiefs, Maddajee Sindiah and Tokajee Holkar, who both have very large Armies on Foot, and are esteemed to hold a considerable Influence in the Maratta Government: It will therefore be necessary to secure as far as possible the Friendship and Assistance of these Leaders, for whatever Troops may be ordered to march through their respective Provinces. Tokajee is mentioned in the Papers received from Bombay, which the Board have done me the Honour to give me the Perusal of, to be one of the Princes who are in the Interest of and desirous of placing Ragonaut Row at the Head of the Maratta State, in whose Favour the Force in question is intended to act in Conjunction with the Troops of Bombay, in which Case, and should Maddajee Sindiah be prevailed on to join the Alliance, every difficulty will I think be at once obviated. Tokajee has at this Time a considerable Force in the neighbourhood of Gohud and Bundelcund, with the Assistance of which, and the Zemindars of the Districts under his Authority, in procuring Provisions and Necessaries, whatever Detachment Government may determine to send by the Route I have recommended, might, I should imagine, proceed

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37.

with Ease and Safety till they could be joined by the Friends of Ragonaut Row on the other Side of the Nurbudda.

Fort William,
16th February 1778.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G^r Stibbert.

Proceedings of the Governor General and Council in their Military Department.

Governor General—As the Letter just read from General Stibbert contains a Variety of Matters, which I suppose the Board would chuse to consider very maturely before they pass any decisive Resolutions upon them; I recommend, that it be sent in Circulation for the deliberate Perusal of the Members of the Board, previous to any Resolution which they may collectively form upon them; but there is one Subject which may require an earlier Attention to it. I hope that there will be no Necessity to send any Military Assistance to the Presidency of Bombay; but it is very probable they will require it; but it cannot be effectual unless it can reach them before the periodical Rains. The Mode by which the Commander in Chief has recommended a Detachment may be raised for this Service, namely to draft 100 Men from each Battalion, would take up so much Time, that before they could be drafted and formed into their respective Corps, and assembled at the Points from which the Roads mentioned by him that lead to the other Side of India, the rainy Season would approach so near as to render it impracticable for them to undertake the March. For which Reason I submit the following Propositions to the Consideration of the Board:

1st. That a Detachment be formed of Six Battalions of Sepoys from the first Brigade, with their Ordnance, One Company of Native Artillery with its Complement of Ordnance, to be furnished from the Field Train of the 1st Brigade at Allahabad, and Two Howitzers to be supplied from the same Station.

2d. That the Troops which are to compose this Detachment be directed to assemble at Korah, or in the Neighbourhood of Calpy.

3. That the Stores for this Detachment be furnished from the Magazines nearest to the Place of Rendezvous, and that the Commanding Officer be furnished with unlimited Authority to indent for such Stores, and in such Quantities as he may deem necessary for the Service to be performed.

4th. That Colonel Leslie be appointed to command this Detachment, with One Field Officer from the 1st Brigade, and one from the Temporary Brigade; and that Major Baillie be nominated to the Charge of the Artillery, with Two additional Subaltern Officers of that Corps to join the Company ordered upon this Service.

5th. That Colonel Leslie be directed to make the necessary Preparations to conduct the Detachment by the most practicable Route to Bombay, or to such other Place in that Neighbourhood as he shall be guided to by the President and Council of Bombay, and that it be particularly recommended to him to provide the most effectual Means of insuring a sufficient Supply of Provisions during the Course of the March.

A true Extract.
(Signed) Rob^t Kyd, Sec^r.

Agreed, That the Governor General's Propositions be circulated for Consideration, and that the Minutes which may be delivered thereon be entered on this Day's Proceedings.

The Propositions delivered by the Governor General which are entered above having been circulated, they were agreed to by Mr. Barwell, and the following Minutes upon them were delivered by Mr. Wheler and Mr. Francis.

Mr. Wheler—In my Minute of Yesterday I have given my Reasons for disapproving of the intended Support of one Part of the Maratta Power against the other. But as it is already determined in Council to aid the Measures of the Presidency of Bombay, I am clearly of Opinion that the Detachment ought in every Respect to be adequate to the Service required; and as I must suppose that now proposed by the Governor is so, I accede to it, and likewise to the 2d, 3d, 4th, and 5th following Propositions made by the Governor General.

24th Feb. 1778.

(Signed) Edw^d Wheler.

24th February 1778.

Mr. Francis—Waving for the present all former Objections to the general Resolution of supporting the Presidency of Bombay in an offensive War, undertaken without our previous Approbation, I object to the March of the proposed Detachment to the Malabar Coast, as I am of Opinion that so great a Force cannot be spared from our Establishment, consistently with the Defence and Safety of these Provinces, which ought to be the principal Object of our Attention, or with the Protection of the Dominions of our Ally the Nabob of Oude, who pays us a Subsidy for the Service of the Troops now ordered to Bombay. Their Removal must necessarily leave a considerable Part of his Frontier defenceless and open to the Marattas.

If a Reinforcement must be sent to Bombay, I beg Leave to repeat my Opinion, that it may be spared with more Safety, and proceed with greater Expedition from Fort Saint George: As the first

Part

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37.

Part of this Opinion is supported by that of Brigadier General Stibbert, I desire that the following Paragraph from his Letter to the Board may be recorded in this Place.

(Signed) P. Francis.

Extract of a Letter from Brigadier General Stibbert, dated 16th February.

“ The Four Battalions I have proposed to be formed by Drafts from the Four Brigades, are, with Two Field Pieces attached to each, full as great a Force as I think can well be spared of disciplined Troops from this Presidency, for the Service of the Presidency of Bombay, keeping at the same Time in View the Defence and Security of the Province of Bengal, and the Vizier’s Dominions, which altogether form an Extent of Country, for the Defence of which, in case of War or Troubles, but particularly of an European War, the Force we have at present on Foot would, in my Opinion, be rather inadequate, so as to give Protection in every Part, and repel the different Attacks that may be made at the same Time by the Country Powers and a foreign Enemy.”

1st. Resolved, That a Detachment be formed of Six Battalions of Sepoys from the First Brigade, with their Ordnance, One Company of Native Artillery from the temporary Brigade with its Complement of Ordnance, to be furnished from the Field Train of the First Brigade at Allahabad, and Two Howitzers to be supplied from the same Station :

2d. Resolved, That the Troops which are to compose this Detachment, be directed to assemble at Cora, or in the Neighbourhood of Calpee, as shall be judged expedient by the commanding Officer :

3d. Resolved, That the Stores for this Detachment be furnished from the Magazines nearest to the Place of Rendezvous, and that the commanding Officer be furnished with unlimited Authority to indent for such Stores, and in such Quantities, as he may deem necessary for the Service to be performed :

4th. Resolved, That Colonel Matthew Leslie be appointed to command this Detachment, with One Field Officer from the First Brigade, and One from the temporary Brigade; and that Major Baillie be nominated to the Charge and Command of the Artillery, with Two additional Subaltern Officers of that Corps, to join the Company ordered upon this Service :

5th. Resolved, That Colonel Leslie be directed to make the necessary Preparations to conduct the Detachment by the most practicable Route to Bombay, or to such other Place in that Neighbourhood as he shall be guided to by the President and Council of Bombay; and that it be particularly recommended to him to provide the most effectual Means of insuring a sufficient Supply of Provisions during the Course of the March,

Ordered, That a Copy of these Resolutions be sent to the Secretary of the Military Board, that they may be carried into Execution under that Department :

Ordered, That a Copy of the above Resolutions be transmitted immediately to the Military Department, that they may be carried into Execution.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 9th March 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler,

The Proceedings of the 5th Instant read, and approved.

The Secretary having received the following Propositions from the Governor General, with Orders to circulate them for the Concurrence of the Board, they were accordingly circulated, and received back, with the Opinions which are entered after them.

The Governor General recommends the following Propositions :

That Colonel Leslie be permitted to take with him, for the Service of his Detachment, such of the General Staff Officers belonging to the temporary Brigade as he shall think proper.

That Lieutenant Colonel Fortnum be appointed Field Engineer to attend this Expedition,

Mr. William Cator to be Pay-master,
Mr. Goold, Commissary of Musters.

That Colonel Leslie be empowered to nominate such Persons for the Regulation of the Depot of Provisions, Supplies of Stores, and Provision of Draft and Carriage Cattle, as the Service may require.

That Colonel Leslie be permitted to have a Quarter-master General and an Assistant Quarter-master General, also an Assistant Field Engineer, for this Service. The Choice of Persons properly qualified for these Appointments, the Board are pleased to leave with Colonel Leslie.

That

A P P E N D I X, N° 35—37. N° 36.

That the Board deem it necessary Colonel Leslie should be authorized to make whatever Disbursements he shall think necessary on this Service: They do therefore direct the Pay-master to obey his Orders in every Particular, requiring his Signature to all Charges not allowed for in the First Regulations of the Service; and for all such extra Disbursements they shall deem the commanding Officer responsible to them in their Board of Inspection.

(Signed) W. Hastings.

I agree.

(Signed) Rich^d Barwell.

Mr. Francis—Having delivered my Opinion at large on the general Measure, it is unnecessary for me to interfere in the Detail of Arrangements, which the Majority of the Board may deem necessary for carrying it into Execution.

(Signed) P. Francis.

Mr. Wheler—I shall not enter into the Arrangements which the Majority of the Board may deem necessary; it is sufficient to say, that I have, and still continue to object to their original Plan.

(Signed) Edw^d Wheler.

The Governor General's Propositions being Resolved in the Affirmative;

Ordered, That a Copy thereof be transmitted to the Military Department, that the Appointment and Arrangements thereby formed may be carried into Execution.

9th March.

The Governor General recommends, that the Resident at the Vizier's Court be directed to reserve the Sum of Ten Lacks of Rupees for the Pay and Expences of the Detachment formed under the Command of Colonel Leslie; that he convert as much of this Sum as he can into Gold Mohurs for the greater Ease of Conveyance, and also Exchange; and that he wait the further Orders of the Board for transmitting this Treasure to the Detachment.

Agreed to.

A P P E N D I X, N° 36.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 16th February 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell, }
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler, }

R E A D a Letter from Mr. Mostyn, as follows:

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Mr. Lewis addressed you last under the 29th November, and I have now the Honour to inform you that I returned hither on the 10th Instant.

On the 14th ultimo, the Durbar received certain Advices of the Death of Ram Rajah; but they have not yet placed a new Rajah at Settara.

Mr. Lewis on the 28th ultimo, having received Intelligence, that Two or Three New Chokies had been placed as Spies on the Factory, sent a Message to Madahrow Jaddaroi, complaining thereof, and requested to know the Durbar's Reason for so doing; it being contrary to their Promises of the English being treated in the same Manner as heretofore. He received no other Reply, than that he was ignorant of the Matter; but would ask Nanah Furnese. Madahrow at the same Time added, that Nanah wanted all Europeans to leave Poona; and that if the English must have a Vackel here he thought a Cageoon with Four or Five People would be sufficient for every Purpose. On the 29th the Chokies abovementioned having stopped and abused a poor Shop-keeper, who had only been to the

A P P E N D I X, N° 36.

The Factory for the Payment of some trifling Articles which had been bought of him, for presuming, as they said, to go to the English without their Permission, Mr. Lewis immediately sent a Person to Madahrow, to acquaint him with this Instance of the Insolence of the Chokies, who directly sent one of People with the Servant to explain the Matter to Nanah, who, instead of listening to the Compt, asked the Servant, by what Authority Mr. Lewis sent People to turn away the Chokies from Poona? Place where he, Nanah, had ordered them to stay? The Servant denied the Charge, and told all the Affair as it had really happened; to which Nanah replied, that he had been informed by the Madahjee Punt, a Man whom he had placed upon the Factory, That Gentleman had sent Forty or Fifty Sepoys to dislodge the Chokies; but upon the Servant requesting that Nanah would send for the said Madahjee Punt, and enquire into the Affair, when he would find he had been greatly imposed upon, Nanah refused complying therewith, saying, he was well convinced Madahjee Punt had told him the Truth. Nanah then directed the Servant to deliver Mr. Lewis the same Message as had been sent the Day before by Madahrow with respect to the English leaving Poona, and desired he would immediately write it to the Honourable the President of Bombay.—Mr. Lewis requests Leave to declare in his own Vindication, that not a single Sepoy was sent, nor a Word exchanged with the Chowkies further than one of his Servants asking them, by whose Orders they acted in giving such Treatment to any one who came to our Factory.

In consequence of Mr. Lewis's Representations to the Presidency, the Honourable the President wrote a Letter to the Peshwa, which this Gentleman was directed to deliver himself, and obtain an Answer; but notwithstanding he frequently applied for an Audience for that Purpose, Nanah absolutely refused to give him one, saying, that he would not receive the Letter from any one else than Madahrow Jadahroi and Byroo, who were appointed to transact the English Business with the Durbar; and that if Mr. Lewis insisted on delivering it himself, he must go to Proonder for that Purpose; he accordingly wrote a Letter to Saccaram Pundit, informing him of the above Circumstances, and requesting he would appoint a Day for receiving the President's Letter; but Saccaram, by a Message through Madahrow, referred him back to Nanah.

Immediately on my Arrival, I sent proper Notice thereof to the Durbar, and requested to have an Audience as soon as possible; to which Nanah replied, that that Day being a Holiday, and the next an unlucky Day, he could not take it into Consideration till the 12th; however, after repeated Messages, I at last obtained an Audience on the 13th, when I delivered the above-mentioned Letter, and Duplicate of one from the Honourable the Governor General, on the Subject of the Ship Aurora: After making an Apology for entering on Business at my first Visit, contrary to the usual Custom, I remonstrated in the strongest Terms on the Disrespect shewn the Company, by the Restrictions laid on their Representative; and demanded a speedy and positive Answer to every Point in the Letter from the Governor of Bombay: To which Nanah replied, that the Durbar would give such an Answer as was usual with them. When I obtained to him, that no other than a plain and direct one would be received. I then, agreeably to my Instructions, acquainted them with the Issue of the Commission they had given me to Ragoba; of which your Honour, &c. have already been advised.

When I had taken Leave of the Durbar, I repeated to Byroo Punt, who attended me out, and has I know great Influence with Nanah, the Necessity of a speedy Answer, which he promised should be delivered in Two Days; but as from the Knowledge I have of the Dilatoriness of this Government, I did not place any great Confidence in this Promise. I wrote the next Day to Madahrow and Byroo Punt, that I hoped they would use their joint Endeavours to procure one as soon as possible; to which they replied, That they had talked with Nanah on the Business, who said it was necessary he should first consult with Saccaram Bapoo. Being now convinced that Nanah was using every Artifice to evade giving an Answer, I thought it necessary to address a Letter to the Peshwa, requesting one, which I enclosed to Saccaram Bapoo, under the 16th. I beg Leave to observe here, Gentlemen, that notwithstanding my Remonstrances, the Chowkies are still continued on the Factory; by which I am so strictly watched, that it is almost impossible for me to have an Intercourse with any one in Town.

Soon after my Arrival Moraba Furnese sent me a Letter for the Honourable the President, which was forwarded under the 11th; in consequence of which the Board have directed me to inform him, that they cannot take any Part in the Affairs of the Maratta Government, unless directly called upon by the Persons with whom the Treaty was concluded.

By the best Information I can procure, I learn that Advices have within these few Days been received from Hurry Punt, acquainting the Durbar that Monackjee Panoria, and the rest of the Maratta Officers mentioned in the last Address from hence, had actually joined Hyder's Army, and together therewith, falling on Hurry Punt, had entirely defeated him, taking most of his heavy Cannon, and plundering his Buzar; this Officer has retreated to Pauncemahl, on the Northern Bank of the Kistna, in Hopes of receiving some Assistance from Downs, who is encamped about Twelve Cots from him. The Durbar have applied to the Nizam to join them against Hyder; but which he has refused, until they deliver him the Forts of Assur and Amadnagur, agreeable to the Promises made him on his joining the present Ministers against Ragoba. I cannot take upon me to assure your Honour, &c. of the Truth of the above, the strict Watch kept over me preventing my having that free Communication with People on whom I can depend, which I could wish; but from Nanah Furnese going suddenly to Proonder Yesterday, on Account it is laid of the Receipt of Hurry Punt's Letter, I am inclined to believe it is true. Tookajee Holkar and Madjee Scindy

A P P E N D I X, N° 36.

have received repeated Orders from the Ministers to join Hurry Punt, but have hitherto found Means to avoid complying therewith; the former is at one of his own Villages, about 15 Coss from hence, and the latter still continues at Rimutpore. Indeed there seems to be a total Oppression amongst all the Maratta Officers, which is attributed to the Poverty of the Government.

Notwithstanding the many Assurances given by the Durbar in general, and the Minis; separately, that Monsieur St. Lubin should be dispatched from hence on Decra (the 12th Oct^r) ^{last} I am sorry to inform your Honour, &c. he is still permitted to remain here, and is to all appearance in high Favour with Nanah Furnese, but I believe with no one else.

The enclosed Packet to your Address was delivered me by the Honourable the President and Council of Bombay.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T^r Moslyn.

Poona,
the 19th January 1778.

Extrait of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 23d February 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheeler, } Esquires.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council at Fort William.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I did myself the Honour of addressing you under the 19th instant.

Monsieur de Corcelle, the French Gentleman who had taken our Protection, as mentioned in a former Address, having received Assurances from Crust Row Balol, in the Name of Nanah, that no Harm should happen to him if he would leave the Protection of the English, that Gentleman on the 14th wrote me a Letter (Copy and Translate of which are now enclozed) and immediately quitted the Factory; putting himself under the Protection of Senhor Norronho, a Portuguese Officer in Command of the Artillery here, who has passed his Word to Monsieur de Corcelle, that the Government do not mean him the least Injury, and with whom he actually now lives without having the least Connection with Monsieur St. Lubin; nor do I suppose he will ever put it in the Power of this Gentleman to make a Second Attempt on his Life, in the infamous Manner represented in Monsieur de Corcelle's Letter of the 5th November last, which has already been forwarded to you. My Superiors apprehending from Monsieur de Corcelle's leaving us so suddenly, that his coming to us at all may have been a Scheme of Monsieur de St Lubin's to get at a Knowledge of what we were doing here, has induced me to be thus particular with respect to him; and I beg Leave to assure you, Gentlemen, that he has not received the least Intelligence of Consequence during his Residence in the Factory: Indeed it appears to me, that his sole Motive for running to the English was to save his Life; and his Reason for quitting them was, as he explained the Matter, to convince his Friends in France that he remained no longer under the English Protection than was absolutely necessary for that Purpose.

The Honourable the President and Council, in a Letter dated the 20th, acquainting me they have received Information that the Durbar had actually agreed by a written Instrument to put the French in Possession of Choul, but that the Sunnud had not been issued, I made the strictest Enquiry into the Truth thereof, and have received Assurances from the Person whose Province it is to draw out all Sunnuds, that no Orders have been issued for that Purpose, nor did he believe the Durbar had any Intention of the Kind, at least until they should be convinced that the French would afford them ample Assistance; neither did he believe there was any Agreement entered into between Monsieur St. Lubin and the Durbar, and if there was any such he was totally ignorant thereof. It therefore appears to me, that the Writing alluded to by my Superiors can be no other than the private Treaty between Monsieur St. Lubin and Nanah Furnese, of which your Honour, &c. were informed under the 29th November. I make no Doubt that Nanah, in order to carry his ambitious Views into Execution, would readily give the French the above-named Place, yet I cannot think he will be so weak as to do it until the required Assistance arrives.

My Superiors likewise mention that they had received Intelligence of a French Gentleman having landed at Choul, and proceeded to Poona. This Person, who proves to be a Monsieur le Roy, arrived here the 8th or 9th instant; but I cannot pretend to say what may be his real Motive for coming hither; he was dispatched by Monsieur St. Lubin in August last, as was then given out by him, with Orders to Monsieur Belicombe, though I have since learnt that his real Errand was to raise Money at Pondicherry in the Name of Monsieur St. Lubin, with which he was to have purchased a Cargo for this Market; it appears, however, that he was disappointed herein, for it is certain he brought no Goods with him to Poona. The Day Nanah Furnese set off for Proonder, he received a Letter from the Soubadar of Choul, acquainting him with the Arrival of Two French Vessels; and that Ap-

plication

A P P E N D I X, N° 36, 33.

Application had been made to him for Permission to land their Cargoes, consisting of Spices and Copper, which he refused granting until he could receive the Orders of the Durbar, but I am assured no such Orders were given before Nanah left Town.

Since my last Address, Intelligence has been received that Downsa after Hurry Punt's late Defeat at a Battle, requesting he would remove from Paunce Mahl, which belongs to the Nizam, as his Troop remaining there would ruin the Country. Hurry Punt has in consequence retreated to Belangore, about 20 Coss to the Northward of the Kiftha. Madjee Scindy has lately had an Engagement with Part of the Rajah of Collapore's Troops, in which he was defeated, and has been obliged to retire at several Coss. Hurry Punt's Defeat seems to have thrown the Durbar into great Distress; and it is imagined from their want of Money, and the Disobedience of their Jaghire Officers, that some Changes must take place, but which Way, it is impossible for me to say with any Degree of Certainty; however, you may depend, Gentlemen, I shall endeavour to gain the earliest Intelligence in my Power, and inform you of any material Alteration.

Notwithstanding my Letter to Saccaram Bapoo, enclosing one for the Peshwa requesting an Answer to the Honourable the President, as advised under the 19th, I have not yet been able to obtain one, though I am assured Saccaram and Nanah had a Meeting at Proonder Three Days ago.

The enclosed Packet in Duplicate to your Address, was received this Day, and agreeable to my Superior's Orders, I now dispatch them by the different Routes of Masulipatam and Benares.

I am, &c.

(Signed) Tho^r Mostyn.

Poona,
The 24th January 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 38.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 13th March 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,

Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

R E A D, and approved, the Proceedings of Yesterday.

Governor General—I have given the Board the Trouble to meet in this Department, although before summoned for the usual Dispatch of Business in the Revenue Council, that I might lay before them a Letter which I received late last Night, signed with the Names of Messieurs Francis and Wheler: Addressees of this Kind I cannot but think in themselves irregular; and I hope Mr. Wheler will excuse me in requesting of him particularly, that when he shall have Occasion to communicate in Writing to me in my public Character, he will be so good as to make it the Subject of a Letter from himself only. I shall always pay him that respectful Attention which it has ever been my Study and even my Inclination to give to his Advice, his Wishes, and Opinions; but sensible as I am by Experience of the fatal Consequences which sooner or later must attend a Division of the Members of the Administration into decided and confirmed Parties, I should be wanting both in my Duty and common Prudence, if I consented to make myself Instrumental to such a Schism formed against myself.

I have read the Letter itself with great Attention; I have compared it with the Orders of the Court of Directors, to which it appears to allude; and clearly recollect the Substance of the Orders already issued for the March of the intended Detachment to Bombay, which Messieurs Francis and Wheler in their Letter mention it as their Opinion should be immediately countermanded; but I cannot perceive their Connection. The Orders from the Court of Directors particularly quoted by Messieurs Francis and Wheler, lose their real Meaning by that partial Quotation; I shall therefore here repeat them at large, so far as they relate to the Proposition grounded upon them; they are as follows: "Though that Treaty is not upon the Whole so agreeable to us as we could wish, still we are resolved strictly to adhere to it on our Parts. You must therefore be particularly vigilant whilst Ragoba is with you, to prevent him from forming any Plan against what is called the Ministerial Party at Poona; and we hereby positively order you not to engage with him in any Scheme whatever for retrieving his Affairs, without the Consent of the Governor General and Council, or Court of Directors." These Words imply an Authority, equal by the Construction of them, to an express Order to engage with Ragoba in any Scheme or Plan for retrieving his Affairs, which shall not be formed against what is called the Ministerial Party at Poona, and which shall have obtained the Consent of the Governor General and Council, or the Court of Directors. As the Proposal made for immediately

A P P E N D I X , N° 38.

Immediately countermanding the Orders already signed for the March of the intended Detachment to Bombay, is declared to be founded on the Principle which influenced the above Orders, I must request, that the Orders particularly alluded to may be shewn, and if they shall appear to have such a Tendency I will willingly consent to their Repeal.

Sir,

Having attentively considered the particular and positive Instructions which the Court of Directors have given to the President and Council of Bombay, in the last Paragraph of their Letter of the 4th July 1777 to that Presidency, in regard to their Connections and Engagements with Ragoba, which they have been pleased to communicate to us in their General Letter received this Day, we think it our Duty to take the earliest Opportunity of submitting to you our Opinion, that as the Court of Directors declare their Resolution to adhere strictly to the Treaty concluded with the Marattas by Colonel Upton, and have particularly ordered the President and Council of Bombay to prevent Ragoba from forming any Plan against what is called the Ministerial Party at Poona; every Measure taken or intended to be taken by that Presidency, in conjunction with Ragoba, against the ruling Power at Poona, will stand in direct Violation of the Company's present Orders, and for that Reason, exclusive of all others heretofore urged to the same Effect, ought not to be supported or countenanced by this Government. On the same Principle we beg Leave to submit our Opinion to you, that all the Orders already issued for the March of the intended Detachment to Bombay should be immediately countermanded.

We have taken this Method of communicating our Thoughts to you on a Subject equally important and pressing, as the Meeting of the Board in Council will not in the ordinary Course take place before Monday next, unless the Contents of this Letter should induce you to think it advisable to summon a Council before that Day.

We have, &c.

Calcutta,
12th March 1778.

{ P. Francis,
(Signed) { Edw^d Wheler.

Mr. Francis—An Objection to the Form in which Mr. Wheler and I thought fit to introduce the Consideration of a Question of such Importance as that contained in our Letter to the Governor General, appears to me so very immaterial that I shall make no Reply to it. I leave the Letter to defend and answer for itself: The Court of Directors will judge whether it deserves the Strictures which have been passed upon it.

A Dispute about the Construction of Words might be endless; I will therefore not enter into it, but content myself with stating what I think the true Sense and Meaning of the Company's present Orders; every Member of the Board will judge for himself: It appears to me that, in the Words quoted by the Governor General, there are Three Declarations on the Part of the Company; the Two First positive, and without any Qualification; the Third, conditional: Their Resolution to adhere to Colonel Upton's Treaty is positive; their Order to the Presidency of Bombay, to prevent Ragoba from forming any Plan against the Ministerial Party, is also positive: The Third Declaration, which forbids that Presidency from engaging with him in any Scheme whatever for retrieving his Affairs, is not absolute, but may be departed from, provided they have our Consent, or that of the Court of Directors. The true Question then is, Whether the late Resolutions taken at Bombay, and confirmed by the Approbation of this Board, are or are not a Violation of Colonel Upton's Treaty? and, Whether they do or do not make a Part of a Plan concerted with Ragoba against the Ministerial Party at Poona? In my Opinion they do. The Information given us by the Presidency of Bombay, in their Letter of the 12th December last, of Propositions made by or expected from the Ministerial Party, in favour of Ragoba, appears to be totally without Foundation. Does there exist any one Fact, or the Representation of a Fact, either from Bombay or Poona, subsequent to the First Information, that tends immediately or remotely to confirm or support it? I affirm that there does not. If I am mistaken the positive Proof may be directly produced against me; yet the Resolution taken, and the Orders given on the Receipt of the first Intelligence, and on the Presumption that that Intelligence was well-founded, remain in full Force, and have been partly executed. We have remitted 10 Lacks of Rupees to Bombay; and we have given Orders for forming a Detachment nearly equal to a Brigade, and for their March to and Assembly at Calpee; the final Orders for their March from thence to Bombay are not yet issued, but every preparatory Step is taken, and I take for granted the Battalions are now on their March from their respective Stations to Calpee. These are the Orders which, as Mr. Wheler and I meant, should be countermanded. According to my Understanding, the whole Measure stands in direct Opposition to the plain Sense and Meaning of the Court of Directors, expressed in their Letter now before us. I have acquainted myself of the Duty which belongs to my Station, in contributing to bring the Question again under the Consideration of the Board, which I apprehend I am warranted in doing by the Instructions received Yesterday, and must leave the Determination of it to the Sense of the Majority.

Mr. Wheler—Considering as I do that the Orders already issued for the assembling of Six Battalions at Calpee, with the further Design of proceeding to Surat, Bombay, or Poona, are in direct Contradiction to the Orders of the Court of Directors, it became my Duty to promote a further Consideration of those Orders, and if possible to prevent their being carried into Execution.

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A P P E N D I X, N° 38, 39.

Imagine a Letter, addressed to the Governor General jointly with Mr. Francis, whose Opinion is well known to have concurred with my own upon this Subject, would have more Force and Efficacy with the Governor General than my single Application: But I am sorry to find it has had the contrary Effect; and if I could flatter myself that the Mode now recommended to me by the Governor would be the Means of uniting our Opinions, I should be very ready to adopt the Measure. I have done my Duty, in joining with Mr. Francis in an Address to the Governor; and I have no Doubt but it will be considered as such by those who are ultimately to judge of the Transaction.

Mr. Barwell—If the Object of the present Question, agitated by a Letter to the Governor General, to prevent the Interposition of this Government in such political Measures as may arise in the West side of India; and under any Circumstances whatever proposes to decline giving the Presidency of Bombay such Aid as may be necessary for its Support, I will venture to affirm, that it is not consistent with any Orders of the Company now received, nor consistent with sound Policy.

The Resolutions that have already passed, for an effectual Aid and Support of the Bombay Government, do not necessarily involve us in any Measures that may not be consistent with those Resolutions. The Defence and Support of one of the Company's Settlements, and the giving them the means of being equal to any Occasions which may possibly call forth the Exertion of our Military strength, cannot be imputed to us as a Breach of the Treaty of Poona, or a Contradiction of any of the Injunctions proceeding from the Company. In the Vote that authorizes the Bombay Government to take a Part in the Scenes at the Poona Durbar, the ultimate Object of them is the Tranquillity of India, and to secure our Government from Designs clearly apparent to have originated with a Faction at Poona, for the Introduction of the natural Enemies of our Nation, the French. The Measures that have been resolved do not in my Opinion warrant a Deduction of the Consequences that are imputed: They profess an entire different Object; and I hope the Public will so far vindicate the Votes of the Majority, as to give them that Degree of Credit so solemn an Act merits. The National Interests can only be my Pursuit, and in Support of the Bombay Government Security and Peace to all our Possessions, I adhere to my former Opinion given on this Subject, and am confirmed in them by a Review of the precarious State of Parties at the Poona Durbar. When once the Blow has fallen upon Bombay, the greatest Exertions on our Part will possibly fail to restore the Splendor of the English Government.

Governor General.—Mr. Barwell has so fully vindicated and explained the late Resolutions of the Board, that he has left me nothing more to add, but that as the Objects of those Resolutions are strictly conformable to the Company's Orders, so also was the Means. We have not authorized, nor I trust is it necessary to declare that we never will authorize, the Presidency of Bombay to engage in any war against what is called the Ministerial Party at Poona, while the Treaty subsists inviolate on their part. A Plan was suggested to us by the President and Council of Bombay, which had for its Object the Means to engage in a Plan for retrieving the Affairs of Ragoba, in conjunction with the Ministerial Party at Poona, and at their Invitation: The declared Object of the Resolution for sending Military Reinforcement to Bombay, was, as it is expressed in our Letter of the 23d February to the Presidency, to grant them the most effectual Support in our Power, but has no kind of Relation, either direct or implied, to a Violation of the Treaty formed with the Ministers at Poona. I am against the Motion for countermanding the Orders issued for the March of the intended Detachment from Bombay.

Resolved, That the Orders for the March of the Detachment from the first Brigade, be not countermanded.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X, N° 39.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 23d of March 1778.

THE Governor General having proposed the following Letter to be written to the President and Council at Bombay, it was circulated by his Order for the Sentiments of the Members of the Board:

Gentlemen,

In the late Dispatches received from the Honourable Court of Directors by the Ship Bessborough, were furnished with a Copy of their General Letter to your Presidency, dated the 4th July, and concluding with the following Paragraph.

REP. VI.

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" 65. Although

A P P E N D I X, N° 39.

" 65. Although we cannot but agree to the Protection that you have given to Ragoba, considering the Connection that you have had with him, by which we must suppose the Company benefited, yet we are under some Apprehensions that the Marattas will think it a Breach of the Treaty entered into with them by Colonel Upton; for though that Treaty is not upon the Whole so agreeable to us as we could wish, still we are resolved strictly to adhere to it on our Parts. You must therefore be particularly vigilant whilst Ragoba is with you, to prevent him from forming any Plan against what is called the Ministerial Party at Poona; and we hereby positively order you not to engage with him in any Scheme whatever in retrieving his Affairs, without the Consent of the Governor General and Council of the Court of Directors, at the same Time we think common Humanity will warrant us in giving you Orders to protect his Person from Violence, if any such Attempts should be made by the Partizans of the Ministers."

We have given this Extract at full Length, because we shall make it the Ground-work of our Instructions on that Part of it which restrains you from forming any Engagements with Ragoba without our Consent.

Although Two Years are past since the Conclusion of the Treaty made by Colonel Upton, yet it does not appear that One Article of it has been accomplished, except those which contain the Declaration of Peace between the Company and Marattas; and these, from the Inefficacy of the rest, and from the dangerous Connection which has been formed by one of the ruling Members of the Maratta State and the French, stand on so insecure a Footing, that we can place no Reliance upon them: We think it neither consistent with good Policy nor with our public Duty, to suffer the Interests of our Employers to remain longer in this State of Suspence and Alarm; nor the Obligation of the National Faith to be made the Instrument of a Policy, which aims at the Ruin and Extirpation of the British Influence in India, without making such Efforts as our Means will afford, and the Treaty will allow, to remove the former, and frustrate the latter.

Your late Advices contain no Grounds for any rational Expectation or Conclusion, but that the Distractions and Weakness of the actual Administration at Poona were so ripe for a Change, as to make it probable that some great Event will have taken Place before you can receive this Letter; and the Objects of it anticipated or precluded, by your own Application of the Advantages which may have been presented to you, to the more permanent Security of our common Interests.

Yet as the Reverse is probable, we shall proceed to give you such Instructions and Authorities for your Guidance, as are necessary; on the Supposition, that the same Administration remains, and that the Treaty continues on the same Footing as that on which it has stood for these Two Years past.

1st. We direct, That you demand immediate Possession of a Country of Three compleat Lacks of Rupees, near or adjoining to Broach, conformable to, and in the Manner provided by, the 5th Article of the Treaty: But as the Execution of this Article has been hitherto suspended by the Disputes which have arisen between you and the Ministers, concerning the Interpretation of the original Words of the Treaty, *Jemma Caumil*, which are rendered by the Word *complete*, in Colonel Upton's English Draft of it.

Although we must regard the Advantage taken by the Ministers in this Instance as disingenuous; yet as a Proof of our Resolution to abide by the strict Letter of the Treaty, even against the evident Spirit and natural Construction of it, and against our own ascertained Intentions, we direct, that if on Enquiry, you shall learn that the technical Meaning of the Words *Jemma Caumil* is such as the Ministers have ascribed to it, and such as under that Interpretation will justify them in their Application of it to the Value of the Lands offered by them in virtue of the 5th Article of the Treaty, although estimated by you only at 2,10,000 Rupees, you do accept the same as a full Performance of that Article: But if it shall appear to you, on valid Authority, that the Words *Jemma Caumil* mean in their official Acceptation what their natural Construction implies, a complete Rent, or a Rent equal to the estimated Sum, you will in such Case insist on the Performance of the 5th Article of the Treaty, conformably to this Interpretation: And if in either Case the Ministers shall refuse to comply with your Demand, we direct that you declare their Refusal to be a Violation of the Treaty.

2d. We direct that you demand immediate Payment of the Sum of Twelve Lacks of Rupees due by the 6th Article of the Treaty, or of so much of it as still remains unpaid; and that the Purgunnah of Jambooseer be thereupon restored to the Ministers, unless you shall have accepted of the same as an Assignment, under such Engagements as shall have absolved them from the literal Performance of that Article, and those Engagements have been fulfilled on their Part; and if they shall refuse to comply with the Demand so made to them, that you declare their Refusal to be a Violation of the Treaty.

3d. We direct, That you keep Possession of the Purgunnahs of Chickley and Corial, the Town of Veriow, the Three Villages of the Purgunnah of Chureassy, and the Village of Batta Gang, which were ceded to the Company by Futtah Sing Guicawar, since the Ministers have failed in producing the Proofs that Futtah Sing did not possess Power or Authority to make such Cessions.

4th. We direct, That you cause a Remonstrance to be made to the Ministers against the Countenance afforded by them to the Chevalier St. Lubin; against the Engagements formed between him and Nanna Farneete; and against the Grant of the Port of Choul made to him, or to the French Nation through him, if you shall have obtained satisfactory Information, either that such a Grant has been actually made, or that the Persons of Office only are wanting to render it complete;

A P P E N D I X; N° 39.

te; though the Grant without these Forms may be equally effectual to the French, and equally dangerous to us; which appears to be the Case, from the Intelligence contained in Mr. Mostyn's Letter of the 24th of January last.

Although we do not insist upon any positive Right to demand the Dismissal of the Chevalier St. Lubin, nor the Exclusion of the French from the Port of Choul; yet we have a Right to require Knowledge of the Intentions of the Ministers in regard to these Points, so far as they respect the Treaty of Peace subsisting between the Maratta State and the British Government in India.

We therefore desire, That you will demand from the Ministers, a clear and satisfactory Explanation of their Intentions; and that you declare to them, that we shall take such Measures accordingly as Prudence shall dictate, for the future Safety of the Company's Interests and Possessions committed to our Charge.

We recommend it to you to obtain if possible a Copy of the Engagements entered into by Nana Furneese with the Chevalier St. Lubin, and a Knowledge of the Measures which may have been taken for their Execution. We cannot view this Intrigue without feeling the most alarming Apprehensions of the Consequences: In Effect, this is the sole Motive of all the late Measures taken for Support of your Presidency. We regard the Marattas as the only native, and the French as the only foreign Power in India, capable of effecting the Influence which the British Nation has acquired in it: The former were prevented from giving us any immediate or effectual Trouble, by their internal Distractions, and the Inequality of their Numbers to the Effect of our Discipline; the latter, by their Want of Territorial Property, or an Alliance which might supply it. An Alliance formed between them would at once relieve all their mutual Wants, and afford them all the Requisites to dispute with us on equal Terms the Dominion of India, which we at present in a degree possess without a Rival. By timely Provisions, and a spirited Negotiation, it may be prevented; but if it is once suffered to take Effect, by the Admission of a French Force into the Maratta State, which may be the Work of a few Months, all our Efforts may prove insufficient to defeat it, and the whole Empire become the Theatre of War between Two European Nations, backed by their respective Allies, with the same Calamities attending it, which we formerly experienced in the Carnatic; but rendered more dreadful by the superior Magnitude of the Contitent.

5th. We have informed the Peshwa and Ministers of our Intentions to send a military Force for the Defence of the Company's Possessions on your Side of India; and have desired that they will issue the necessary Orders, both for their safe Passage and such Assistance as they may require on the March; assuring them, that the strictest Orders will be given to the Officer commanding this Force, to conduct himself in every Respect in a Manner suitable to the Peace and Friendship which we have been established between the Maratta State and ours; and that we are resolved most rigidly to adhere to the Letter of the Treaty, and to maintain the Peace intended by it.

These Assurances we desire you will cause to be repeated, and that you will make the same Requirement for a free Passage and Assistance to our Troops.

6th. While Saccaram Baboo and Nana Furneese continue to hold the Administration, and adhere generally to the Treaty to which they are Parties, we recommend and enjoin the same literal Adherence to it on your Parts.

This Obligation will remain in equal Force, if a Change of Government should take place, and the new Members of it shall declare the State to be bound by the Treaty, and pledge their own Faith to it; but if the present or future Members of the Administration shall either directly infringe the Treaty, or permit it to be infringed by Persons acting under their Authority, or shall refuse to fulfil the Conditions of it, we, as authorized by the Company, do invest you with Authority to form a new Alliance with Ragoba, and to engage with him in any Scheme which you shall deem expedient and safe for retrieving his Affairs. The like Authority we have already given you, in the Case of your receiving a formal Invitation to that Effect from the First Minister, Saccaram Baboo, in our Letter of the 2d February: We at the same Time recommended certain specific Advantages, which on such an Occasion we were of Opinion ought to be required as a Compensation for the Company's Interposition; but under every Circumstance, we recommended to you in the most earnest Manner to make the Establishment of a lasting Peace, which can only be effected by Conditions of reciprocal Advantage with the Maratta Government, and a total Exclusion of the French Influence, Interest, and Property, from the Maratta Government and Country, your sole general Objects, as they are ours.

7th. We do not mean however to preclude you from any Advantages which it may be possible to obtain by Negotiation, though we instruct you to be bound by the Treaty, in case the new Members of the Maratta State shall declare themselves bound by that Treaty, and shall pledge their own Faith to it. But as a Change in the Administration at Poona will probably enable you to gain political Advantages highly beneficial to the Company and to the general Interests of our Nation, and to amend the Defects in our present Engagements, we leave it to you to pursue such a Policy as Circumstances shall warrant, independent of any particular Interest of Ragonaut Row, whom you must regard in the great political Objects of our Government as simply meriting our Consideration, and not necessarily connected or blended with them.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

A P P E N D I X,

A P P E N D I X, N° 46.

Bengal Secret Country Correspondence, N° 6.

To Mahah Rajah Modjee Bhoosila : Written 22d February 1778.

I HAVE received most authentic Intelligence from different Channels, that the French are now carrying on Intrigues at Poona ; partly with a View of forming an advantageous Alliance for their own Nation, and partly with a View of destroying the Friendship which has for some Time subsisted between the English and Maratta Governments. I have likewise learnt that the French Agent St. Lubin has met with great Encouragement from some of the Chiefs ; that a Treaty has actually been concluded with him, and the valuable Port of Choul granted to the French, which is only a few Coss distant from Bombay. The Grant of this Port not only marks an Indisposition towards us, but puts into the Hands of the French an Arsenal where they may collect military Stores, and make Preparations for attacking our Possessions when we are unaware of their Designs. I who have the Superintendance of the whole English Force in India have nothing to fear from the Exertions of a Nation who are Infants in Strength in India, and who must transport every Soldier they have to bring into the Field from a distant Country, and over a wide Ocean ; and the Conduct of such of the Maratta Chiefs as may have joined the French in Preference to the English Interests, excited my Pity for their Want of Wisdom rather than my Anger for their Presumption. It is my Duty however to guard against the future Effects of their Intrigues ; for if I permit the Enemies of the King of England and the Company to gather Strength, though my own Nation is too strong to suffer in its Interests from any Thing they can do, the Lives of many Men may be sacrificed in repelling Attacks for which we might not be prepared in one Part of our Dominions, though we should have more than sufficient Force on this Side of India to punish our Enemies for whatever Loss our Government might suffer from such Disturbances.

For these Reasons I have resolved to send a strong Military Force to reinforce our Settlement at Bombay ; and have directed a large Detachment with a well-appointed Artillery, and commanded by experienced Officers, to assemble at Calpee, that they may be ready to march towards Bombay : There are Two Roads by which they may march, one by Soubah Malwah and the other through Berar. The Road through Soubah Malwah is the shortest, but I have not yet formed any Friendship with the Rulers of the Countries situated on that Road ; and as my Enemies are your Enemies, and our Wishes in all Things the same, I have resolved that my Troops shall pass through Berar in their Way to Bombay ; that by this Means our Friendship may be declared to all the World, and that the Seeds of an Alliance between the English and you, which has long been both my Desire and yours, may be sown. The Detachment will march in less than a Month from this Time, by which Time I have no Doubt you will have given Orders for their free Passage through your Country, and have sent Information of your having given such Orders to Calpee. It will be better if you send a trusty Person, and Part of your own Army, to accompany ours. I assure myself you will give me this Proof of your Friendship, that the whole World may be a Witness of its Sincerity, but as it is necessary to be certain of your Consent before the Troops have proceeded too far, I desire that if you should not chuse to comply with this Request, you will give Notice of it to the Commander of the Detachment, who will accordingly take another Road. But this I will not suppose.

To Dewagur Pundit : D°.

Of the same Tenor as the foregoing, and requesting he will employ his Influence with his Master, to obtain his ready Compliance for the March of the Troops through his Country.

To Modajee Bhoosila : Written 25th February.

The Day before Yesterday I dispatched a Letter to you on the Subject of Affairs here, and requesting your Permission for a Detachment of English Forces to march through Berar in their Way to Bombay ; a Duplicate of which Letter accompanies this.

Since that Time I have had further Conversations with your Vackel Beneram Pundit, who has warmly dissuaded me from sending the Forces by the Route of Malwah, as highly inconsistent with the Friendship subsisting between us, and given me the fullest Assurances that you will, with the greatest Pleasure, comply with my Request, and will afford the Detachment every possible Assistance, by supplying them with Provisions, &c. and will send a trusty Person with a Part of your Army, to accompany it to the Place of its Destination.

I have in consequence written to Colonel Leslie, the Commander of these Forces, to repair with all Expedition to Calpee, and from thence by Bundlecund to Berar, and proceed to Bombay ; and that

A P P E N D I X, N° 40.

I will receive every Kind of Assistance from you in his March. I request that immediately on Receipt of this Letter you will write to Colonel Leslie at Calpee, signifying to him your Compliance with the above Request; and will at the same Time issue the necessary Orders to your Officers.

I have been induced to act thus from the firmest Conviction of the Sincerity of your Friendship, & full Confidence in the Assurances given me by your Vaceel Beneram Pundit; but should you vertheleſs not think proper to give your Consent, you will give immediate Intimation of your Sentiments to Colonel Leslie, who will in consequence take some other Route.

To the Vizier: Written 3d March.

I have received repeated and authentic Intelligence that the French are now carrying on secret In-
gues at Poona with a View to form an advantageous Alliance for their own Nation, to enable them
acquire Power and Dominion in Hindostan; and also that their Agent St. Lubin has met with
great Encouragement from some of the Maratta Chiefs. As there can be no Doubt of the Use they
would make of any Force they might be suffered to acquire, namely, to attack the English and their
allies, it is incumbent on us to apply an immediate Remedy. Your Excellency's own Interest, in-
pendant of every Motive of Friendship or Alliance, requires your hearty Concurrence in this Mea-
sure. It is well known that the French can never attack Bengal by Sea with any Prospect of Advantage,
but would they think of so warm an Attempt: Should they be suffered to form Alliances, and to
become formidable, they would undoubtedly march from the Westward, and make their first At-
tempt against your Excellency's Dominions. To prevent the Possibility of this, and to ensure our
future Peace and Tranquillity, I have determined to send a large military Force to reinforce the Go-
vernment of Bombay, and to enable it to crush immediately the French Power in that Quarter. For
this Purpose, I have directed Colonel Leslie to march without Delay at the Head of a large Detach-
ment, and well-appointed Artillery, to Bombay. Mr. Middleton will more fully explain to you the
nature of the Plan, and will make Application to you for your Assistance and Support of it. I
have no Doubt but your Excellency, knowing that the future Prosperity of your own Dominions do-
minantly depend on our vigorous Opposition against the common Enemy, will cheerfully comply
with every Application which that Gentleman shall make to you for Assistance from your own Bri-
gade, or any other which it is in your Power to furnish.

To the Peishwa: Written 23d March.

In consequence of repeated and circumstantial Intelligence, of hostile Designs forming against the
Company Settlements on the other Side of India, I have judged it expedient to detach a Body of
troops from the Army for their Defence. As the March of the Detachment may probably lie
through a Part of the Maratta Dominions, I must request you will give the necessary Orders for allow-
ing them a free Passage, and direct such Assistance to be given them as they may require in their
route.

The commanding Officer is strictly enjoined to observe such a Conduct in all Respects, as is
consistent with the Peace and Friendship subsisting between your Government and the Company.
I take this Occasion of repeating my Assurances of the Determination of this Government to adhere
upulously to all the Conditions of the Treaty, and to maintain the Peace inviolable as long
as it shall be in our Power to maintain it; and I flatter myself that you will likewise act on the same
inciples.

To the Rajah of Boondlecund: Written 1st April.

Having lately come to the Resolution to dispatch a considerable Body of Forces for the Reinforce-
ment of the Government of Bombay, which will march by the Way of Calpee, through a Part of
our Territory, I am to request, that you will pay Attention to all such Applications as may be
made to you by Colonel Leslie, the Commander of the Detachment; and that you will afford him
such Assistance as he may stand in need of, by supplying him with Provisions and other Necessaries.
I can have no Doubt, from the Friendship which subsists between us, that you will be glad to
show your Attachment to the Company, by a ready Compliance with my Desire, and have therefore
directed Colonel Leslie to apply to you in all Cases where your Assistance can be of Use to him; he
has likewise received Orders to observe the strictest Regularity in his March through your Territories;
so that your Subjects may not suffer any Inconveniences therewith, but on the contrary be benefited
by it. I could wish that you would send a trusty Person to attend Colonel Leslie on your Part through
our Country, to receive his Applications; and in case any Stragglers from his Army should commit
any Disorders, to represent it to him, and procure Redress—For the rest knowing me, &c.

N. B. The Country of Boondlecund being under the Jurisdiction of Four different Chiefs, viz.
Bzooder Sing, the Chief of them, who succeeded to his Father Hindoput, Surrumput Sing, Go-
un Sing, and Comaun Sing, who each possess a Share of the Country; a Letter of the same Tenor
as the above has been written to each of them; also one of the same Tenor to the Chief of Bopaul.

A P P E N D I X, N° 40, 41.

To Beneram Pundit : D^r.

I enclose you Letters to your Master Maha Rajah Modajee Bhoosilah and Dewan Dewagurt Pundit, which I request you will forward to them with all possible Expedition, and accompanying them by Letters from yourself, for which Purpose I send you Copies for your Information.

If you have finished the Business for which you went to Benares, I wish you to proceed without Delay and join Colonel Leslie, who is very desirous of seeing you, and of consulting with you personally on many Points relative to his March, which can be much better effected by an Interview than by any other Means.

To Beneram Pundit : Written 4th April.

I have received your Letter informing me of your Arrival at Benares : I understand by the Letters written by you to your Brother, that Colonel Leslie has desired you to go to him to Cora, and that you have been much alarmed by the Reports communicated to you from Dondo Pundit ; I before desired your Brother to inform you of my Wish, which I now repeat ; that whenever you shall have finished the Business which was the original Cause of your Visit to Benares, you will proceed to Colonel Leslie, and assist him with your Advice and such Communications as may be useful to him, until he shall have commenced his March. Dondo Pundit has no Authority for any Intelligence which he may pretend to have received from Calcutta ; and you too well know the inventive Dispositions of the People of this Place to give Credit to Rumours originating from them.

I have already communicated to you, in a confidential Manner, all that was necessary for you to know, and have told you, that the Object of the present Undertaking was to reinforce and strengthen the Presidency of Bombay, and to enable them to frustrate any Designs which may be formed against the Peace and Rights of the Company on that Side of India : On this Subject I have written more fully to Mr. Thomas Graham and to Colonel Leslie ; from either of whom, wherever you may be when you receive this Letter, you will understand it.

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 23d March 1778.

THE Draft of the Letter proposed by the Governor to be written to the President and Council at Bombay, was returned, with the following Minutes from Messrs. Francis and Wheler :

Mr. Francis—As the intended Letter to Bombay professes Two general Principles in which I concur ; First, to make the Company's Orders of the 4th of July 1777 the Ground-work of our present Instructions : Secondly, to make the Establishment of a lasting Peace our sole general Object ; I have only to consider how far the Instructions contained in this Letter are consistent with those Principles, with one another, with the Measures already resolved on, and with the Motives originally assigned for those Measures.

The Third Paragraph states as preliminary Facts, that no One Article of the Treaty has yet been accomplished, except the Declaration of the Peace ; and that a dangerous Connection has been formed by One of the ruling Members of the Maratta State and the French.

From thence a general Conclusion is drawn, that we are bound by Policy and Duty to make such Efforts *as our Means will afford*, and *as the Treaty will allow*, to remove the Suspence and Alarm of our present Situation, and to frustrate a Policy which aims at our Ruin and Extirpation.

On this Paragraph it is sufficient to observe that we continue in the peaceable Possession of Salsette, also of the Maratta Share of the City and Purgunnah of Broach.

That the compleat Execution of the 5th Article of the Treaty has only been retarded by a Dispute about the literal Meaning of the Words *Kamil Jumma*, or in Effect, whether those Words mean a nett Revenue of 2,10,000 Rupees, or Three Lacks.

In our Letter of the 18th of August last, we said we understood the Term to mean a *gross* Revenue, which I think decides the Dispute against us.

At all Events we retain Chickley, Corial, and several other Places, and enjoy the Revenues thereof as Pledges, until the Sunnuds for the Country of Three Lacks shall be made out.

That the Sixth Article of the Treaty is also executed by the Marattas, since *they* have given and *we* have accepted of Jambooseer, as a Mortgage to be held until the Revenues collected from thence shall have liquidated the Debt of Twelve Lacks.

These important Concessions having been made and fulfilled on the Part of the Marattas, it seems just

APPENDIX, N° 41.

uit and reasonable that ~~some~~ Satisfaction should be given them on our Side ; particularly that Ragoba should be removed from Bombay with a proper Provision for his Establishment in a private Station. In our Letter of the 18th August, we were unanimous in considering his Continuance at Bombay as an insuperable Bar to the Completion of the Treaty.

The Second supposed Fact on which the present Measures are built, is introduced as usual, without Proof; viz. "That a Connection has been formed by Nana Furneese with the French, and that it aims at our Ruin and Extirpation." If any Negotiations have taken place with the French, we may trace them to their Source in the Protection given to Ragoba; his Residence at Bombay; and the continued Intrigues between him and that Presidency. The true Way to defeat the Views of the French is to give the Marattas a solid Proof of our good Faith by dismissing Ragoba. While the Pender to their Government is supported by us, we give them too much Cause for looking to France for Assistance. The present Measures, if carried into Execution, will leave them without a Choice. As for making use of such Efforts as our Means will afford, and as the Treaty will allow, it is a Contradiction in Sense without saving Appearances. The Efforts in Question are hostile, which a Treaty of Peace and Friendship cannot suppose or allow of.

The First Instruction orders a peremptory Demand of a Country of Three complete Lacks, and leaves to the Presidency of Bombay to determine, whether *Caumil Junma* means complete or not. In our Letter of the 18th of August, we determined that it signified *gross*. Is it meant that we should go to War for the Difference, while we have Chickley, Corial, Veriow, &c. in our Hands as a Pledge for the security of the Whole?

The Second Instruction orders a peremptory Demand of the Twelve Lacks which the Marattas consented to pay us towards the Expences of the War. Is it meant that we shall renew the War for the immediate Payment of this whole Sum, while the Revenues of Jambooseer are mortgaged as for the gradual Liquidation of it?

The Third Instruction decides, that Futtu Sing had a Right to make the Cessions mentioned in the Seventh Article of the Treaty, and orders the Presidency of Bombay to keep Possession of them in all Events. This Point seems to me very disputable, and the Decision of it in our Favour, very likely to make the Establishment of a *lasting Peace* impossible.

The Fourth Instruction supposes the Fort of Choul to have been granted to the French. An Assertion of the same Nature was introduced into the Debates on the 23d of February; and upon Enquiry was acknowledged to be without Proof. The Remonstrance against Monsieur St. Lubin is to be accompanied with the Demands of a clear and satisfactory Explanation from the Ministers of their Intentions, and a Declaration that we shall take such Measures accordingly as Prudence shall dictate. Is it meant to declare War with the Marattas, if their Answer should not be satisfactory to the Presidency of Bombay, or to the Governor General and Mr. Barwell?

In the Fifth Instruction, a supposed Intrigue of Nana Furneese with Monsieur St. Lubin, is stated "as the sole Motive of all the late Measures we have taken for the Support of the Presidency of Bombay." The Resolution of the 2d of February, from which all the late Measures have originated was, "that our Sanction should be given to the Plan which the President and Council of Bombay had agreed to form with the Maratta Government." Now it is not disputed, that no such a Plan has ever been formed, and that Mr. Lewis's Account of Proposals made him in the Name of the Ministers, in favour of Ragoba, was founded on some Fallacy, and produced no Effect of any Kind; yet the Measures taken on the Presumption that such a Plan had been formed, are adhered to, and now imputed to another Motive; that is, the first Ground failing, another must be assumed.

The Fifth Instruction says, that we have applied to the Peshwa for a safe Passage for our Army through their Dominions. Suppose they should refuse it: Is it meant that the Detachment shall march through their Territories without their Permission, or without their Consent? If it be, this Act alone is a Declaration of War, which it is in vain to attempt to qualify, by any Assurances of our pacific Intentions? Such Language, united with such Measures, is an Insult to Common Sense; and much too plain, in my Opinion, to deceive either the Marattas or the Court of Directors.

The Sixth Instruction leaves it to the Presidency of Bombay to judge whether or no the Treaty is directly or indirectly infringed. If they determine that it is, they are at once "vested with Authority to form a new Alliance with Ragoba, and to engage with him in any Scheme which they shall deem expedient and safe for retrieving his Affairs." In the present Temper and Disposition of that Presidency, I presume there cannot be a Doubt in the Breast of any of us, of the Use they will immediately make of this extraordinary Power; or that they will not forward to avail themselves of it before it can be recalled.

The Seventh Instruction supposes the Probability of a Change in the Administration of Poona, from which more extensive Advantages may be derived: In this Case it is left to them "to pursue such Policy as Circumstances shall warrant, independent of any particular Interests of Ragoba." In the preceding Article they are authorized to engage with Ragoba in any Scheme for retrieving his Affairs: In the present Article they are instructed to gain as many Advantages as they can without any Concern for his Interests. Exclusive of the manifest Contradiction between the Two Instructions, and the hazardous as well as disgraceful Consequences of not pursuing some One determinate System, I apprehend that we are not warranted in giving such unlimited Power to the Presidency of Bombay: Their Measures ought to be constantly subordinate to our Councils, and successively directed by them.

The

A P P E N D I X; N° 41.

The Peace of India, perhaps the Fate of the British Empire in this Part of the World, is involved in the Question, which we leave to their exclusive Decision. Are we justified in relinquishing our Jurisdiction, even for a Moment, over such Questions?

Upon the Whole it appears to me, that the real Tendency of this Letter, notwithstanding any qualifying Expressions interpersed through it, is to provoke a War with the Marattas; that it feeds, for Causes of Offence where none exist; that the Language it holds to the Marattas, is peremptory and hostile, and never used but when a Rupture is predetermined; that the Causes of Complaint on which it urges a Quarrel are trifling and exaggerated; that the Facts it refers to, are either clearly disproved, or taken for granted without Evidence; and that the Terms of the Instructions contained in it, are in some Places ambiguous, in others contradictory. Whether they are or are not consistent with the pacific Resolutions, so clearly and positively expressed by the Court of Directors in the Letter of the 4th of July, must be left to their Judgment.

Mr. Wheler—Having already dissented to and protested against any Interference on our Part between the contending Powers of the Maratta Government, and declared my Disapprobation of the Armament now under Orders for Bombay, and the Purposes for which it is to be employed, and in general to all the Measures proposed to be taken by the Majority of this Board relating to the Marattas, I shall not think it necessary in future to enter into a particular Discussion of any Proposition, which may be made in the Course of our Correspondence with the Presidency of Bombay, by the Governor General or Mr. Barwell, as they have taken the whole Responsibility on themselves, and must be answerable for the Consequence of the Measures already resolved on, and such as may of Necessity follow. On the present Occasion I shall content myself with making some short Remarks on some Part of the Draft of the Letter to Bombay, laid before us by the Governor General, and leave the Whole to be more fully discussed and decided on by our Superiors.

I agree with the Governor General, in wishing to make the 65th Paragraph of the Company's Letter to Bombay the Ground of our Instructions to the President and Council there; but I differ with him, in thinking this ought to be extended, as far only as they are restrained by it from forming any Engagement with Ragoba without the Consent of this Board. I wish to extend our Instruction to what I deem the Spirit and Meaning of the whole Order, to adhere to the Treaty of Poona made by Colonel Upton, and even in the Protection given to Ragoba, to be careful to avoid what the Marattas may think a Breach of that Treaty; and I am of Opinion that we ought to give the full Weight to that Part which directs, that the Council of Bombay be "particularly vigilant whilst "Ragoba is with them, to prevent him from forming any Plan against what is called the Ministerial "Party at Poona;" by which the late Resolutions on this Subject, and the present Propositions, are I think entirely condemned.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with the Consequences of the Treaty of Poona to be able to enter into a particular Retutation of what is asserted in the Third Paragraph of the Governor General's Draft, that no One Article of it has yet been accomplished; but the Court of Directors, who have constant Information from Bombay, do not appear to be possessed with any such Opinion, and declare, that they are resolved to adhere strictly to the Treaty on their Parts. With respect to the Consequence to be expected from the French Negotiators at Poona, I have already declared my Opinion of them, and how far they ought to be opposed by us: Any Interference on our Part between the contending Parties of the Maratta Government, can only have the Effect of forcing the other Party to unite with the French, and thereby produce that very Consequence which the Governor General proposes to guard against, of procuring them a powerful and useful Ally, to enable them to dispute our Dominion in India.

I object to and protest against the Form and Substance of all Demands to be made by the Presidency of Bombay on the Maratta Government, and to the March of our Troops through their Territories, and to the Powers proposed to be given to the President and Council of Bombay, to enter into any new Engagements with Ragoba, or to avail themselves of any particular Circumstances, or Change amongst the governing Powers of the Maratta State, as subservient to the Treaty of Poona; a Violation of the Company's Orders lately received; and tending to involve them, and perhaps the British Nation, in a dangerous and most expensive War, which at this critical Period may not be confined to India alone, and which propooses no adequate or reasonable Purpose for incurring so great a Risque.

(Signed)

Edward Wheler.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 6th April 1778.

The Governor General delivers in the following Answer to Mr. Francis's Objections to the Letter to the Presidency of Bombay on the 23d March

Governor General—It is not perhaps incumbent upon me to make any Reply to the Minute delivered in by Mr. Francis, objecting to the proposed Draft of a Letter to the Presidency of Bombay, as I conceive that all the Points brought by Mr. Francis as Arguments against the Instructions contained in that Letter, have been fully canvassed in my former Minutes upon the State of the Maratta in relation to the English Government; and I will venture to pronounce, that to an unbiassed Reader, it will be proved by those Minutes, and by the Documents on which the Arguments contained in them are founded, and which stand upon our Records, that the Seeds of a Combination be-

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

When the leading though not the principal Members of the Maratta Administration, and an Agent acts under the immediate Instructions of the first Ministers of the French Nation, are sowr and already taken deep Root; that the Administration of Poona have treated the Agent of that Nation with all the Attention due to the Minister of an Ally; whilst they have behaved to ours with an Attention and Disrespect which in any European Court would be considered as a Dismission disgraceful to the Power he represented, and the Consequence of which would be Satisfaction or War; that even allowing for the Difference of Manners to which such a Conduct to our Minister may be imputed, the striking Contrast in their Behaviour to the French Agent, with whose Nation I am the whole to understand Mr. Francis supposes them not in Alliance, and to ours to whom they are bound by Treaty, marks too clearly to be doubted, that such Conduct proceeds from some deeper cause than simply a Difference of Manners; and lastly, it will appear that the Treaty of Poorunder, dated the 1st of March 1776, have not yet been carried into Execution.

I have repeatedly and in the most formal Manner declared, and I again declare it to be my Opinion, that such is the State of Affairs at Poona.

It is unnecessary to seek further for the Causes of the Difference of Opinion in the Members of the Board upon the important Questions which have lately been before it. We differ in the Belief of the Facts on which our Decision is to be founded. Mr. Francis and Mr. Wheler appear to be total Inaction; Mr. Barwell and myself are for taking some Steps which may secure us against the Effect of Intrigues, which we are persuaded are carrying on at Poona, and we wish at the same Time that what we do should be consistent with the Treaty of Poorunder.

I shall now proceed to examine the Nature and Force of the Evidence by which I think the Propositions I have above laid down are supported.

In a Letter from Bombay under Date the 10th May 1777, and entered in our Consultation of the 16th June, we are informed of the Arrival of a French Gentleman with his Train, who afterwards turned out to be the Chevalier St. Lubin. We are likewise informed of the high Respect shewn to him by the Durbar at Poona, and of the Suspicion, with the Grounds of it, that the Port of Chowl would be granted by the Ministers to the French. We find that Mahderow Bullob, an Officer of the Government, was appointed to transact the French Business.

In another Letter from Bombay, dated the 21st June 1777, and entered in Consultation of the 18th August, is the following Paragraph:

" We now find that the French Deputy at the Maratta Durbar is no other than the celebrated Monsieur St. Lubin, and not Monsieur St. Laub, as we at first imagined. At his first Audience he was received with a Respect and Ceremony greatly superior to what was paid to our Resident; The Two Ministers themselves, Succaram and Nanah, having gone without the Tent Walls, to meet him on his alighting from an Elephant provided for him by the Circar, and introduced him into the Durbar; whereas Mr. Mostyn was only received by Two inferior Officers, and with much less Ceremony. We have remonstrated against the Indignity shewn to the Nation by this Distinction shewn to the French, and the Restrictions laid on Mr. Mostyn and his Attendants, so contrary to the Law of Nations, and insisted upon their allowing him the same Privilege and Freedom of Communication as heretofore."

In Consultation the 22d September is entered a Letter from the Bombay Council, enclosing a Paper obtained by Mr. Mostyn at Poona, from an Englishman in St. Lubin's Suite, said to be the Production of his Secretary's Pen; in which it is stated, that Monsieur de Sartine was the Minister who was entrusted with the Management of the Expedition to India; that he was so much interested in its Success as to visit the Ports where the Ships intended for the Expedition lay; that 3,000 Men under the Command of Monsieur Dennas, late Governor of the Isle of France, were originally intended for the Expedition; that St. Lubin was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to the Maratta Court, and was bound to send an Express to Europe upon his Arrival; of which, should the Contents be favourable to their Views, the above-mentioned Number of Men would be sent, &c.

The next Information in Order of Time which came before us, was Mr. Elliott's Letter, which circulated amongst the Members of the Board on the 1st October, though for the Sake of Secrecy it was not thought proper at that Time to put it upon Record. It is to be found in Consultation of the 2d February. As I mean however this Minute to contain a pretty full Abstract of the Whole of the Evidence of the French Intrigues, and of the high Authority from which they originate, I shall here quote that Part of it which relates to the Objection which I am now writing.

" Having been fortunate enough to obtain some Intelligence before I left Europe, in which the Interest of the East India Company, and the Influence of Great Britain in India, appear to be deeply interested, I think it incumbent on me to take the earliest Opportunity of communicating it to your Honourable Board; I am concerned at the same Time to be under the Necessity of laying the Facts only before you without having it in my Power to point out the Channel through which the Intelligence was conveyed to me, as my Promise was most particularly taken before I was myself intrusted with it, that I should conceal the Names of the Persons from whom I received the Information: It was not without some Difficulty that I obtained Permission to inform the Governor General and Sir John Clavering of this material Circumstance, and that only upon Condition, that they should not trust it to the Records of the Company, however secret they might be. The Opinions which those Gentlemen must form as to the Authenticity of the Facts

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

" which I now propose myself the Honour of laying before you, will be a sufficient Justifica-
" of me for addressing you in this Letter.

" It appears, by the Information to which I allude, that Monsieur Sartine, Ministre de la Marine
" of France, has concerted with Three or Four of the principal Ministers of that Country a Scheme
" the Object of which is the total Overthrow of the English Interests in India; that he was sensible
" the Force which France could herself bring against our Settlements would prove insufficient for
" great an Undertaking, and had therefore thought it necessary to the Completion of his Views
" begin by intriguing with the Country Powers, and by endeavouring to secure them in the Interest
" of France in Opposition to those of Britain; that for this Purpose he was resolved to send
" Person to India with full Powers, in the Character of Agent; and likewise to send out Person
" who in the Information are called Des Exerceurs, to discipline the Natives of India; and a con-
" siderable Quantity of Arms and Military Stores. The Person who was nominated to this Office
" was described to me as one who had before been in India: He was to go to Pondicherry first, b.
" to assume no public Character, that he might not be subject to the Suspicions of the English;
" is furnished with Letters from the Court of France to all the Country Princes of any Note
" India, to be used at his own Discretion; he likewise carries out Presents of considerable Value
" which he is to distribute as he may judge necessary. The Substance of his Instructions is
" follows: To treat with such of the Country Powers as he may have Reason to think will more
" readily assist the Views of France, and to form Alliances with them in the Name of the King of
" France; to endeavour to persuade the Country Powers to fall upon the English Settlements; &
" he is authorized to promise such as will accede to his Proposal, the warmest Support of his Nation
" secretly, till Hostilities are actually commenced, and then openly: He is warned however in his
" Instructions, that France is not to take the Lead in the War, but is to come in as an Affiliate
" only. The Person from whom I learnt these Particulars knew for certain that the Agent sailed
" from Marseilles in the Beginning of April last, but was unacquainted with his Name, and unable
" to inform me for certain what Road he had followed to India, but seemed to be of Opinion that
" he must have passed over to Alexandria, in the Intention of embarking at Suez for India.

" Having informed you of what I venture to say may be relied on as authentic, it will not be
" misplaced," &c.

If we had no other Proof of the Authenticity of the Information contained in this Letter, but
agreeing so exactly in all the material Facts with the Intelligence transmitted to us from Poona,
the Paper I have already mentioned, and in the Letters of Mr. Farmer and Mr. Madgett, entered
Consultation the 26th January, I should hold it to be incontrovertible.

The same Circumstances brought from Europe, and traced in the Capital of the Maratta Empire, upon the same Subject, must be Facts; the Authenticity of Mr. Elliott's Information does not however, singly depend even upon this strong Ground; he takes upon him in his Letter to pronounce it to be authentic, and he has communicated to me, as he would have done to Sir John Clavering had he been alive, which Mr. Elliott thought he was when he drew up the Letter, as will appear from the Terms of it, the Grounds upon which he makes the Declaration; and I now declare that he has not in the smallest Degree stated the Authenticity of his Information more forcibly than he is warranted from the Nature of it. It is not therefore in support of Mr. Elliott's Letter, that I make the Comparison between the Intelligence discovered in Europe and at Poona; but it is to examine how far we should give Credit to those Parts of Mr. Madgett's Letter, which are not corroborated by Mr. Elliott's. If the Parts of his Letter which admitted of Proof are ascertained by that Proof being obtained, we are I think bound to believe that the other Parts of it are equally authentic, in support of which we are sensible no Proof could be obtained. The following is an Extract of his Letter:

" I have heard it repeatedly mentioned by different Gentlemen who were there, that there was some written Instrument, to one Side of which Nanah swore by the Cow, and the other Side Monsieur St. Lubin swore by the Holy Evangelist; that Nanah, further, kept the Book Monsieur St. Lubin swore on."

Mr. Farmer in his Letter to Mr. Hornby, an Extract of which is here entered, uses the following Words on the same Subject:

" They all perfectly agree in the Circumstances of the Summons given to attend at Nanah's to witness the Treaty. Nanah was sworn by his Bramin, and St. Lubin by his Padre, and Nanah kept the Book."

From the following Extract of our Letter to Bombay, under Date the 20th of October, which is considerably before the Letters from Mr. Farmer and Mr. Madgett were received by us, it will appear what was the unanimous Opinion of the Board upon the Subject of the French Intrigues. The Words with a Black Stroke under them are in Mr. Francis's Hand Writing. I know not why the great additional Weight of Evidence, brought before the Board since that Period, should have made him change his Mind upon this important Subject.

" The Paper of Intelligence obtained by Mr. Mostyn from a Person lately in the Service of Monsieur St. Lubin, and enclosed in your Letter of the 2d of August, has left no room to doubt of the Commission with which he is charged from the Court of France; and the secret Conference which he has been admitted to hold with the Poona Government, too strongly indicate that they may have been engaged in Negotiations of a hostile Nature to the Company. Monsieur St. Lubin
" remains

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

" remains still at the Maratta Court, and may possibly by this Time have entered into Engagements with the Paithwa of a dangerous Tendency to the Company's Establishments ; at such a Crisis, therefore, every Circumstance is of Consequence, and we are under great Anxiety to learn the Progress of his Negotiations."

I delivered in to the Board on the 2d of February 1778, Extracts from the Persian Correspondence.

The Evidence contained in those Letters appears to me to amount to Proof. Saccaram Babboo the first Minister, and whose Name is One of the Two affixed to the Treaty, tells us, that Monsieur St. Lubin is come to Poona with the Character of Minister on the Part of the King of France ; that he brought a Letter from his Royal Master to the Pundit Puidhaun (that is to the Peshwa) that Friendship is the Object of his Negotiation. This Letter is from the first Minister, and established incontrovertibly the Character in which Monsieur St. Lubin came to India. It cannot then be asserted that St. Lubin is an Adventurer. The Nabob of Arcot's Vackel details to his Master what passed between the French Agent and the Maratta Minister. The whole Letter is worthy of the utmost Attention, but I shall here quote only the following Words :

" Succaram Pundit then said (to St Lubin) I will appoint some Person to negotiate your Business for you ; it must be a Person who is well versed in your Affairs ; I know of no one qualified for this Business, except Mado Row Sudashee." Mr. ——— not relishing this Proposal, made answer,

" he is employed in the Negotiations with the English, how is it possible we should unite ?" The same Vackel mentions the Chevalier St. Lubin's Desire, that 10,000 Sepoys should be raised to be disciplined ; the Aumil of Guyacawar mentions the same Circumstance. It must be observed how exactly this agrees with the Information brought by Mr. Elliott from Europe, who says, " That for this Purpose he (Monsieur Sartine) resolved to send a Person with full Powers to India, in the Character of Agent ; and likewise to send out Persons who in the Information are called Des Exerceurs, to discipline the Natives of India." I will here, for the sake of bringing the whole Subject into one Point of View, introduce an Extract of Mr. Madgett's Letter which has been before quoted.

" Military Stores, 15,000 Musquets, rejected from the King's Service, were spared to him at a very low Price from the King's Stores, by Means of the Influence of Monsieur de Sartine ; Cloth of different Sortments and Colours, with a Quantity proper for Facing, formed also a Part of the Cargo, which, I frequently heard Monsieur de St. Lubin mention, was to clothe the Troops that might be raised in India for the Purpose of the Alliance : Having perhaps forgot it in the Owner's Cargo, he persuaded an Officer in the Ship to get made and bring out a considerable Quantity of Buttons ; the Device of the Buttons was given by Monsieur de St. Lubin ; it is a Fleur de Lys in a Crescent, which probably Monsieur de St. Lubin imagined to be the Maratta Standard, and had therfore intended it as emblematic of the Alliance."

The Aumil of Guyacawar writes from Poona upon the Subject of the French Agent, " The Expences are great ; how should he be able to make such Presents of himself ? From these Circumstances it is evident that he is no Impostor."

In Mr. Elliott's Letter are the following Words, " He likewise carries out Presents of considerable Value, which he is to distribute as he may judge necessary."

Dewagur Pundit, the Duan of Moodajee Booslah, writes to me, that an experienced Ambassador is arrived from France, &c.

In a Letter from Mr. Lewis to the Governor of Bombay, which is recorded in our Consultation the 16th February, we find, that Chokees were placed upon the English Factory ; and that none of the English Resident's People could stir without being attended with One or Two ; and that the Insolence of the Chokees was carried so far as to have ill treated a Shopkeeper who served the Factory with the common Necessaries of Life : The only Satisfaction which the Durbar would give for an Indignity greater than ever was borne by any Nation, was a Declaration that Nanah Furnesse wanted all Europeans to leave Poona, and that if the English must have a Vackel there, he thought a Carkoon was enough ; we are informed nevertheless, that Monsieur de St. Lubin was closeted with Nannah Furnesse for Three Hours on the same Day.

The Governor and Council of Bombay in their Instructions to Mr. Mostyn, entered in the same Consultation, direct him to obtain a satisfactory Explanation of the Indignity offered to the Company in the Person of their Resident ; and to declare to the Durbar, that if they continue to treat their Resident with the same Indignity in future, it will be considered as a Breach of the Treaty, &c.

Mr. Mottyn informs us in his Letter of the 19th January, that he was promised an Answer to his Complaints in Two Days ; on the 13th of January, that he has not only received no Answer to his Complaints, but the Chokees are continued on the Factory.

In Antwer to all this, I am told that I take a Fact for granted without Proof : I have stated my Proofs, and I think they are clear and decided, and unless we could send a Commission to Poona to take the Evidence of the confidential Officers of the Maratta Government, I know not how stronger Proofs could be obtained, and I do not conceive, that upon a political Question stronger could be required. I will quote the Words used by Mr. Francis in a Minute which he circulated on the 1st December last, from which it will appear what his Opinions were at that Time of the French Designs.

" In the present Situation of public Affairs, and with the Opinion entertained by every Member of this Board, that the French are meditating Designs against some Part of the Company's Possessions

A P P E N D I X. N° 4.

" in India, I think we cannot be too watchful in observing their Motions, and taking early Precautions against any Attempts they may possibly have in View; whether such Attempts be likely to succeed or not, at this Time every new Appearance on their Part is a just Object of Suspicion."

In the Minute to which I mean this as a Reply, he shews, pretty clearly, that he does not totally differ with me in Opinion as he would appear to do; for he apologizes for the Protection given by the Marattas to the French. The Apology which he makes for them is, that our Conduct in the Protection of Ragoba has authorized them to seek for Safety in the Arms of our natural Enemy. We do not then differ in the Fact; we only differ in the Causes which gave Rise to the Connection. I shall not now enter into an Argument with Mr. Francis upon the Rectitude of Measures which are past. It will be here sufficient to say, that the Court of Directors made Ragoba's personal Safety an indispensable Condition of their Approbation of the Treaty. It will scarcely be denied, that should he be delivered up to the Ministers, or driven naked and defenceless from under the Protection of the British Flag, his Life must fall a Sacrifice to such Injustice. The Conveyance of Ragonaut Row to Bengal by Sea, has already been under the Consideration of the Board, and proved to be impracticable. Mr. Francis, I cannot doubt, though he has introduced this Subject by Way of Argument, would shudder at the Thought of delivering over a Man, to whom the British Faith has once been pledged, to certain Death. He says, nevertheless, that the true Way to defeat the French Views, is to give the Marattas a solid Proof of our Friendship by dismissing Ragoba. The Connection which he supposes to be formed between the French and the Marattas, and which he makes the Ground-work of this Proposal, might possibly be dissolved by adopting it; but if it should not be dissolved, we should, by an untimely Act of Submission, contrary to Humanity, contrary to the Instructions of our Superiors, and contrary to Policy, give additional Strength to that Power which has been proved to be in Combination with our natural Enemies, the French. The personal Safety of Ragoba was an implied Article of the Treaty; no Member of this Board will, I apprehend, stain the British Faith with so foul a Reproach as to suppose it was not: If, however, it was not, the Decision of the Court of Directors has made it so. The Article of the Treaty which relates to his personal Residence, is incompatible with his personal Safety; for it was stipulated, that he should reside in the Heart of the Maratta Dominions. Mr. Francis may argue on this Question, as he has on another, that there is no Proof that his Life would not be safe in the Place allotted for his Residence. I must leave the Decision of this Question to the Convict on which every Man will feel upon it in his own Breast; and shall only say, that should we try the Experiment, and the Proof afterwards come, it must be sealed in Blood. Mr. Francis seems to dwell upon an Expression used in the Preface to the Instructions to Bombay. He says, that to make use of such Efforts as our Means will afford, and as the Treaty will allow, is a Contradiction in Sense without saving Appearances. I am sorry he should think it worth while to play with Words when deliberating upon the most important Questions which can come before this Board. It is torturing Words to make them convey a Meaning which they do not supply. The Efforts which our Means will afford must be directed by future Events, by Necessity, or by Policy. They may be productive of War; but they may be productive of Harmony between the English and Maratta Government: If they should be hostile, it must be upon the Principle of no Treaty of Friendship and Peace existing. The Treaty might allow us to demand the Payment of Twelve Lacks of Rupees for the Expences of the War; it might not however follow, that our Means would allow us to make use of such Efforts as might enable us to enforce the Payment of our Due.

I shall here reply to that Part of Mr. Francis's Minute which alludes to the Fifth Instruction in the Letter to Bombay, because it is connected with the Subject of which I am now treating. The Impression meant to be conveyed by it is, that not having originally approved the Treaty of Poorunder, I was resolved to break it at all Events. Mr. Francis says, that all the late Measures originated from the Resolution of the 2d February; and upon the Truth of this Fact, he appears to rest his Proof of my Determination on a Breach of Faith.

I should draw this Minute to an unwarrantable Length were I to quote all the Passages from my Minutes, prior to that Date which clearly disprove the Fact asserted: I am loth to suppose that Mr. Francis has made this the Ground-work of his Attack upon my Measures, in Hopes that the Papers, which are upon Record, are too voluminous to be read. In Answer to what he has said on that Subject, particularly to these Words, "The first Ground failing, another must be assumed," I quote the following Extracts from my Minute entered in Consultation the 26th January, which was prior to the Receipt of the Letter on which the Resolutions of the 2d February were founded.

" That I may not appear to have drawn too forcible a Conclusion from the late Transactions between the Ministers and the Chevalier St. Lubin, I beg Leave to call the Recollection of the Board to a Paper delivered to them by Mr. Elliott on the 1st of October last. From the Comparison of the Intelligence contained in that Paper, and brought immediately from Europe, with the Information obtained by Mr. Mostyn and Mr. Lewis at Poona, and their exact Agreement in the most essential Points, I think it appears beyond a Doubt, that the French Agent there is entrusted with a Plan which has for its Object the Subversion of the British Influence in India: We are in actual Treaty of Friendship with the ruling Administration of the Maratta State; and our Treaty was formed at a Time when they were engaged in a War with the Company; from which they were released by the Treaty which we granted them, and in the Prosecution of which, had it continued, they must have

A P P E N D I X, N° 4*i.*

have fallen. The Treaty was concluded by an Officer of Rank, deputed immediately from this Government; and the Attention of every Prince and Chief in Hindostan was turned upon this first Negotiation of the British Power under the Direction of a general Government: It is disgraceful to us, that the Government at Poona should in any Situation, pay more Attention, and shew more Countenance to an Agent of the natural and known Enemy of our Country than to ours; but when we are informed, that the French Ministry have formed a Plan of an offensive Alliance with the Maratta State; when we are informed that an Agent of the French Ministry has been received at Poona, has been treated with the greatest Confidence and Marks of Distinction, while our own is disregarded; that he has received from them the Grant of a Port of Trade within Twenty Miles of Bombay itself; has exchanged mutual Engagements with them, of which his Part is to supply them with Arms and a Military Force; and even the common News-papers relate these Transactions of universal Notoriety; what Conclusions are we, who are immediately concerned in them, to form from them? Are we to regard them as the allowable Machinations of political Intrigue, and quietly permit them to operate to their last Effect, if the Marattas commit no overt Act of Hostility, or direct Breach of the Treaty? Or shall we consider the Preparations to a War as declaratory of an intended Breach of Treaty, and take such Measures as the Necessity of such a Situation demands for ensuring and confirming the Treaty, and giving it that Vigour which it yet confessedly wants? Or, if that should prove impracticable, even to prevent the Designs of our Enemies, by openly counteracting and opposing them?

"That a Remonstrance be made to the Ministers against the Countenance afforded by them to the Chevalier St. Lubin, against the Engagements we understand have been formed with him, and against the Grant of the Port of Chowl, made as we understand to him, or to the French Nation through him; that though we do not insist on any positive Right to demand his Dismissal, nor the Exclusion of the French from the Port of Chowl, yet as we have a Right to require a Knowledge of the Intentions of the Ministers in regard to these Points, so far as they respect the Treaty of Peace subsisting between the Maratta State and the British Government in India, a clear and satisfactory Explanation be demanded of their Intentions; and that a Declaration be made to them, that we shall take such Measures accordingly as Prudence shall dictate for the future Safety of the Company's Interests and Possessions committed to our Charge."

I should apologize for the extreme Length of this Minute, and for the Number of Quotations have been under the Necessity of making from our Records, with which every Member of the Board must be supposed to be acquainted, but the hasty Manner in which Mr. Francis accuses me of introducing supposed Facts, as usual, without Proof; and the Assertion which he makes, that he Causes of Complaint, on which the Letter urges a Quarrel, are trifling and exaggerated; and that the Facts it refers to are clearly disapproved, or taken for granted without Evidence, has forced me in my own Defence to disprove the Assertions of Mr. Francis.

Let Mr. Francis and Mr. Wheler weigh the Force of Evidence upon which the Proof of the Combination between the French and Marattas is founded. Should they hereafter see the Armies and Fleets of France in Alliance with the Marattas, the Offspring of the present Intrigues, and their proposed Invasion, triumphing over the English Settlements in the Western Parts of India, it would be a bad Excuse to their Country and to themselves, to say, "We had no Proof that it would be so."

I am well aware of the innumerable Causes which may arise between this Time and the Period intended for the Execution of this Plan, to prevent its being executed at all; had I the same Conviction that the Plan would be carried into Execution, as I have that it exists, I should not have proposed that Troops should be sent to reinforce our Settlement at Bombay, but I should have proposed, that English Armies from Calpee and Bombay should have met at Poona. I do not therefore rest upon the Conviction that the French will send out Armies to India for the Purpose of effecting our Overthrow; I acknowledge the Chapter of Accidents to be open, and that it is a voluminous one. I am convinced however that when Monsieur St. Lubin was despatched from France, it was the Intention of that Government to back his Negotiations by Force; and, as far as human Fore sight can lead us, we have every Reason to think that the French Administration will do every Thing they intended, for St. Lubin's Negotiations appear to have been much more successful than their most sanguine Expectations could have permitted them to hope. The Line I have taken in Conjunction with Mr. Barwell is strictly consistent with these Principles; we tell the Ministers, that if they do not give us a clear and satisfactory Explanation of their Intentions, we shall take such Measures accordingly as Prudence shall dictate, &c.

This Declaration does not in any Shape commit us. Prudence may dictate us the Necessity of reinforcing our Settlement at Bombay, and no more. Such a Declaration may however alarm the Administration at Poona, and make them act with more good Faith towards those with whom they are in Alliance; the Requisition for Permission that our Troops shall pass through their Country, will give this Declaration additional Weight; and I think it is more than probable, that should Nanah Fur-nese, the Patron of the French, still wish to support the Views of that Nation, he will be checked by Succaram Baboo, and his other Colleagues in Office. This leads me to answer the Part of Mr. Francis's Minute, where he asks, What is meant to be done should the Marattas refuse a Passage to our Troops through their Country? Future Events must decide this Question; the Detachment is not yet marched; when it does march it may take another Road, or march but a Part of the Way. It is no Declaration of War to ask a free Passage for our Troops, from one of our Settlements

A P P E N D I X, N° 4.

tlements to another; and I will never give my Consent to a Declaration of War, or to any Act which is equal to it, against the Marattas, whilst they maintain their Raith to us, or whilst we are not obliged to act in our own Defence. The Advantages of our military Preparations must at all Events be acknowledged. If the Detachment reaches Bombay, it secures that Settlement against every Effort with which the French and Maratta Intrigues appear to be pregnant. If it should stop in the Country of the Rajah of Berar, Poona will be between an English Army at Bombay and another in Berar. Its March may be suspended, or it may be rendered wholly unnecessary, by Advices received from Bombay, that the Members of that Presidency have of themselves effected the Purposes for which it was formed, either before the Detachment has made a considerable Progress, or possibly before it has even moved from the Ground of its first Station. But even in these Cases it may have been productive of some Advantage by the Confidence excited in our Friends, and by the Impression which the Rumour of so powerful a Reinforcement may have made on the Minds of a weak, unconstitutional, and divided Ministry; which abandoning all its Hopes in the French Alliance, may chuse, on any Terms, to solicit ours as their only Resource; or to yield into their Hands, for the Condition of personal Safety, a Power which they are unable to retain.

I shall now endeavour to prove my Third Proposition, that the Treaty of Poorunder passed on the 1st March 1777 is not yet executed; which will at the same Time answer the only Part of Mr. Francis's Minute which remains unanswered.

The first Proof which is produced in that Minute in support of the Opinion, that the Treaty is executed, is, that we are in Possession of Salfette, and the Maratta Share of the City and Purgannah of Broach.

It would be strange indeed if we were not: We were in Possession of them when the Treaty was concluded, and nothing but Force could have wrested them from us; and that Force must have been greater than the whole Maratta Empire, unsupported by an European Alliance, could have brought against us. This is not a very striking Instance to produce of the Maratta good Faith.

It is stipulated in the Treaty that Salfette and the other Islands should remain in our Possession. The only Way by which this Condition of the Treaty could be accomplished was by Silence and Acquiescence; but the Treaty was scarcely signed when the Ministers reclaimed those Cessions, and have since repeated the Requisition not as a Point of Option but of Right, with an Intimation too strongly implied to be misunderstood, that at a proper Time they would use Force to recover it; yet Mr. Francis instances this as One Condition of the Treaty which has been accomplished: Surely it has not.

The 5th Article of the Treaty entitles us to a Country of Three complete Lacks of Rupees, &c. &c. This Article is not executed; and Mr. Francis acknowledges it, for he says, "The complete Execution of the Treaty has only been retarded by a Dispute about the literal Meaning of the *Kaumil Jumma*, &c." Mr. Francis says, "That in our Letter of the 18th August, we declared that we understood the Term to mean a Gross Revenue;" which he thinks decides the Dispute against us: By no Means; Mr. Francis has mistaken or forgotten the Point in Dispute. It is not a Gross Revenue of Three Lacks which the Minister offers, for that we should have accepted, but Lands which stand rated in the Books at a Revenue of Three Lacks. Our Instructions to the Presidency of Bombay upon this Article in the Letter quoted by Mr. Francis, are strictly consonant to those which we have now given, as will appear from the Perusal of both.

Mr. Francis asks, "Is it meant that we should go to War? &c." The Instructions direct the Council of Bombay to ascertain the Right; if we are wrong to relinquish our Demands, if we are right to insist on our Right; and if not admitted to declare it a Breach of Treaty. It is extraordinary that if upon Proof it appears that we have Rights, that we should relinquish those Rights because they are controverted by the Marattas. It is not very consistent with the Honour of this Government to yield at so critical a Time to the Dictates of an Ally, the Terms of whose Alliance are not yet completed. To declare it will be a Breach of Treaty is not a Declaration of War, but it is a Declaration that we have a Right to go to War, and will I have no Doubt be sufficient to secure us our Right, unless the Marattas shall be supported by an European Ally.

Though I am not fond of commenting, I cannot help taking Notice of a Word used by Mr. Francis, in the Part of his Minute which alludes to the Execution of the 5th Article of the Treaty. He says, "The complete Execution of the 5th Article of the Treaty has only been retarded by a Dispute about the literal Meaning of the Words *Kaumil Jumma*." Any one not acquainted with the Subject would infer from this Expression that the Execution of the Treaty was delayed, till by looking into a Dictionary we could ascertain the Meaning of a Word. The Treaty has been concluded upwards of Two Years, and this Article by Mr. Francis's Confession is not yet accomplished. How long would he permit it to remain so?

He says, "We retain Chickley, Corial, and several other Places, and enjoy the Revenue thereof as Pledges till the Sunnuds for the Country of Three Lacks can be made out."

We do not hold the Places he mentions as a Pledge: They are the Cessions made to us by Fatty Sing, and are our Property, as will be seen in my Answer to Mr. Francis's Objection to the Third Instruction.

The 6th Article of the Treaty is equally unaccomplished. The Marattas agree to pay us Six Lacks within Six Months of the Date of the Treaty, and Six Lacks within Two Years of the same Date, which last Period expired on the First of last Month.

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

Mr. Francis appears to object to the Instructions proposed for enforcing the Execution of this Article, upon a Reliance that they will not be read by those who read his Objections. To contrast his Objection with the Instructions is the shortest, but I am sure the most conclusive of all Replies to his Observation.

Instruction.

2d. " We direct that you demand immediate Payment of the Sum of Twelve Lacks of Rupees, due by the Sixth Article of the Treaty, or of so much of it as still remains unpaid; and that the Purgunnah of Jambooseer be thereupon restored to the Ministers, unless you shall have accepted of the same as an Assignment under such Engagements as shall have absolved them from the literal Performance of that Article, and those Engagements have been fulfilled on their Part; and if they shall refuse to comply with the Demands so made to them, that you declare their Refusal to be a Breach of the Treaty."

Observation.

" The Second Instruction orders a peremptory Demand of the Twelve Lacks which the Mārattas consented to pay us towards the Expences of the War. Is it meant that we shall renew the War for the immediate Payment of this whole Sum, while the Revenues of Jambooseer are mortgaged to us for the gradual Liquidation of it?"

It will scarcely be denied, that a temporary Mortgage of an open Country from one Nation to another, is not equal to ready Money, which was our original Agreement. War would mutually release us from all our Engagements, and the mortgaged Country would be as much theirs as ours; a Sum of Money in our own Treasury would be indisputably our own. I leave others, less unbiased in their Opinions than my Opponent, to judge from this Minute of the Security we have, at Peace will long exist between the English and Maratta Governments.

The Decision that Futtī Sing had a Right to make the Cessions he made to us, contained in the third Instruction, is likely, Mr. Francis says, to make the Establishment of a lasting Peace impossible.

To our Letter of the 18th August I refer for a Reply to this Objection; it was a Letter written with the unanimous Consent of the Board, and the Line with a black Stroke under it, is in the Handwriting of Mr. Francis. An attentive Reader will perceive, that the Line to which I allude to forms the most forcible Part of the Argument in favour of our retaining the Cessions, as it is meant to prove that Futtī Sing's Evidence did not make against our Right.

" We enclose for your Information Copies and Translations of a Letter written by Futtī Sing, in reply to a Reference made to him by Colonel Upton on the Subject of his Right to alienate any Territories dependent on him, and of Sunnuds granted at divers Times to the Guicawars. This Letter from Futtī Sing, though it evades a positive and direct Answer to the Point in question, seems to disavow any Right in him to alienate these Possessions; but the Concerns which he has in the Question makes his personal Evidence very suspicious (especially in the present Instance, in which it is opposed to his own personal Act) since whatever is relinquished by the Company will revert to him.

" By the Tenure on which all Jagheery Possessions are held, we doubt whether any Part of them can be legally alienated for ever by the Jagheerdar, but we are not sufficiently informed if the Lands possessed by the Guicawar Family are of this Nature. The Answer to the 7th Request, contained in the 4th Sunnud, seems to allow of a Right in them to dispose of their own Districts in any Manner they pleased, without obtaining the special Concurrence of the Paishwa.

" The Request and Answer are as follow:

" 7th Request. I shall commence War against the independent Moguls who have Establishments in my Share, and recover my Possessions from them at my own Expence; let not the Government concern itself with them.

" Answer. Should you take any Measures with respect to those Districts which are your own Share, the Government has no Concern in it.

" Agreed accordingly.

" Although the Inference which we draw from this Passage is not conclusive, yet we think it sufficient to justify you in retaining Possession of the Districts ceded by Futtī Sing, until clear Proof shall be afforded by him or by the Minister, that he had no Right to make those Cessions. The Detention of the Country for a few Months longer, supposing it should at last be restored to Futtī Sing, will be no Breach of the Treaty on our Part, as long as any material Articles of it remain unexecuted on theirs."

I have now I think answered every Thing advanced in Opposition to the late Instructions to me.

Mr. Francis and Mr. Wheeler may perhaps consider themselves as little responsible for Voices, such as the Voices of a Minority, are not effectual. Mr. Barwell and myself are in different Situations.

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

Situations. I could wish to have been joined by every Member of the Board on this Occasion, because I think Unanimity would add Vigour to our distant Measures; and I hold them responsible for whatever Effects may be produced by their Opposition.

Mr. Francis—I beg Leave to offer a few short Observations on the preceding Minute: They are meant for Explanation only, and not to continue the Argument at a Point of Time when Argument is useless.

1. With respect to the supposed Connection between the Marattas and the French, and which is said to aim at our Ruin and Extirpation, the Governor General asserts, *that we do not differ in the Fact*, for that I have admitted "that our Conduct in the Protection of Ragoba has authorized them to seek "for Safety in the Arms of our natural Enemies." The Words in my former Minute, from which this Conclusion is drawn, are as follows, "While the Pretender to their Government is supported by "us, we give them too much Cause for looking to France for Assistance. The present Measures, if "carried into Execution, will leave them without a Choice." I submit to Judgment, whether these Words have Relation to Events which I expect to follow from the System we are now pursuing, or to Events which have already taken place?

2. The Passage quoted from my Minute of the 21st of December related to the Number of French Ships at that Time at Chandernagore, and to the Necessity of guarding this Country against the Designs which that Appearance seemed to indicate. I have uniformly and repeatedly declared my Opinion, that Bengal is not in a State of Defence; and I have this Reason, in addition to every other for opposing a Resolution, which not only tends to provoke a War without Necessity, but immediately weakens us in that Quarter, where all is at stake, and where our chief Strength should be collected.

3. When I proposed that Ragoba should be dismissed from Bombay, I never meant, and Mr. Hastings knows it well, that he should be delivered up a Sacrifice to his Enemies; he has no Right to suppose that I have departed from the Opinion, in which the Board was unanimous on the 18th of August last, when the Question concerning the Provision to be made for Ragoba's personal Safety, was thoroughly discussed, and our Sentiments united thereupon; I desire to be understood to adhere to the Terms of our Letter of the 18th of August, to the Council of Bombay on this Subject.

4. The Words of our Letter of that Date, and of the 20th of October, which the Governor General states to be in my Hand-writing, were intended to correct and qualify other Expressions in the Secretary's original Draught, which appeared to me too strong. I deem it highly irregular and uncandid to attribute to me exclusively or particularly, any Language or Opinions, which the Board, by their unanimous Concurrence and Assent, have adopted and made their own: To obtain that Concurrence in question, something, I believe, was given up on both Sides. Since however the Governor General has quoted the Correction as it stands in my Writing, it is proper that the original Draught may be compared with those which I substituted in the room of them.

18th October 1777.

Original Draught.

This Letter from Futtu Sing, though *very illusive, &c.*

Alteration agreed to.

though it evades a positive and direct Answer to the Point in Question, &c.

20th October 1777.

Monsieur St. Lubin remains still at the Maratta Court, and *may probably by this Time have formed an Alliance with the Paikwa of the most dangerous Tendency to the Company's Establishments.*

"and may possibly by this Time have entered into Engagements with the Paikwa of a dangerous Tendency to the Company's Establishments."

(Signed) P. Francis.

Warren Hastings,
Richard Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 15th April 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

The Governor General delivers in the following Minute in Reply to Mr. Francis's of the 10th instant; and desires that it may be sent round to the Members of the Board for their Perusal.

Ms.

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

Mr. Francis—

10th April 1773.

I beg Leave to offer a few short Observations on the preceding Minute; they are meant for Explanation only, and not to continue the Argument at a Point of Time when Argument is useless.

Governor General—

My Reply to Mr. Francis's Observations, dated the 10th Instant, on my Minute of the 6th, shall be very short; and to avoid the Embarrassment of Quotations, I shall here insert his Observations at large with my own upon them in the opposite Column.

1st. With Respect to the supposed Connection between the Marattas and the French, and which I said to aim at our Ruin and Extirpation, the Governor General asserts that, *we do not differ in the Fact*, for that I have admitted "That our Conduct in the Protection of Ragoba has authorized them to seek for Safety in the Arms of our natural Enemy." The Words in my former Minute from which this Conclusion is drawn, are as follow: "While the Pretender to their Government is supported by us, we give them too much Cause for looking to France for Assistance: The present Measures, if carried into Execution, will leave them without a Choice." Submit to your Judgment, whether these Words give Relation to Events, which I expect to follow on the System we are now pursuing, or to Events which have already taken Place?

2d. The Passage quoted from my Minute of the 21st of December, related to the Number of French Ships at that Time at Chandernagore, and the Necessity of guarding this Country against Designs which that Appearance seemed to indicate. I have uniformly and repeatedly declared my Opinion, that Bengal is not in a State of Defence; and I have this Reason in Addition to every other, for opposing a Resolution which not only tends to provoke a War without Necessity, it immediately weakens us in that Quarter where all is at stake, and where our chief Strength could be collected.

1st. The Words quoted by Mr. Francis from his Minute have certainly, in the plain and obvious Construction of them, a Relation to Events which have already taken place since the Asylum granted to Ragoba, which I understand to be intended by the Words "While the Pretender to their Government is supported by us," is of a Date as old as the Treaty, and of course the Consequence inferred from it by Mr. Francis, must allude to the past, not to the future. Whether the Protection granted to Ragoba was consistent with good Faith, or contrary to it, is not now the Question. I have asserted as a Fact, that the Ministers had looked to France for Assistance, and Mr. Francis not denying the Fact, has barely assigned a Reason for it; I am therefore justified in laying, that *we do not differ in the Fact*.

2d. The whole Tenor of Mr. Francis's Minute of the 1st (not the 21st) December, was intended to prove, that the French had Designs against our Possessions in India. The Circumstance which at that Time attracted his Attention, and which he thought indicated such Designs, was the Number of French Ships lying at Chandernagore: It was my Opinion delivered then, and formed many Years before Mr. Francis came into the Country, that either the French would never attempt the Invasion of Bengal by Sea, or if they did they must immediately fail in it, in consequence of the natural Difficulties which, independent of other Causes, would oppose it. In Opposition to Mr. Francis's present Opinion, I declare it to be mine, that *Bengal is now in a better State of Defence* than it ever has been since the English were interested in its Safety; that its best Defence against the French is to render their Designs abortive before their Execution; and that if they do exist, as Mr. Francis himself supposes, it is a better Policy "to provoke the War," to use his Words, if such must be the Consequence of our present Measures, than to wait till they are ripe for Action, and have every Engine prepared that can ensure their Success against us.

But I presume it is now no longer necessary to dwell on this Argument. However doubtful the Supposition of the French Engagements with the present Rulers of the Maratta State were at the Commencement of this Contest, or even when Mr. Francis wrote the Minute before me, that Supposition is now reduced to a Certainty, if any Evidence can make it so. It is long since I acquainted the Board with the Intention of Monsieur Bellcombe to visit the Malabar Coast, and verbally since of his actual Departure from Pondicherry. The last Letter from the Presidency of Bombay, dated the 8th of March, M m confirms

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

confirms this Report, and expresses their Opinion in Terms to which I think Mr. Francis himself will now subscribe, that the Design of Monsieur Bellcombe "is not merely to supervise a Settlement of so little Importance as Mybie, "which, they hear, is the avowed Motive; but "is rather occasioned by the Negotiations of Monsieur de St. Lubin."

With the Duplicate of the same Dispatches I received a Letter from Mr. Hornby, of a later Date, expressing the same Apprehension; and adding, that he had just heard a Captain in the Portuguese Service say, "that the Governor of Goa had written to him, that he expected Monsieur Bellcombe there."

To these Authorities I shall add that of Mr. Rumbold, on the following Extract of a Letter, which I have received from him, dated the 23d of March. "Monsieur Bellcombe embarked some Time ago with One hundred Europeans, some Artillery, and a Quantity of Stores on a Frigate. We have since heard of their Arrival at Mahé, on the Malabar Coast. Before he left Pondicherry, he wrote the Nabob, that having received Orders from his Court to visit all the Garrisons in India belonging to his most Christian Majesty, he was entering upon that Service, and would be absent from Pondicherry about Five Months; it is not improbable but he intends some Assistance to the Marattas."

It is not without Hesitation that I make this Use of a private Communication; but it appears to me so conclusive of the Designs which have been long imputed to the French, that I have thought I could not with Propriety withhold it from the Knowledge of the Board, for whose Information, and not for the Maintenance of an Argument, I have given it a Place in this Minute. What may be the real Object of Monsieur Bellcombe will be better shewn by the Event, which cannot be very remote, than by any Reasoning upon Appearances; but these will at least justify the present Conclusion, that if a War should ensue, we cannot have provoked it by any Acts subsequent to them, and I have only advanced to meet it.

3d. When I proposed that Ragoba should be dismissed from Bombay, I never meant, and Mr. Hastings knows it well, that he should be delivered up a Sacrifice to his Enemies: He has no Right to suppose that I have departed from the Opinion, in which the Board was unanimous on the 18th of August last, when the Question concerning the Provision to be made for Ragoba's personal Safety was thoroughly discussed, and our Sentiments united thereupon. I desire to be understood to adhere to the Terms of our Letter of the 18th of August to the Council at Bombay on this Subject.

3d. To dismiss Ragoba from Bombay without Provision made for his personal Safety, to dismiss him with such a Provision only made for his Safety as cannot avail him, and to deliver him up a Sacrifice to his Enemies, are in my Sense of them Propositions of synonymous Import. I had proved in a former Minute, that One of the Provisions, suggested in our Letter of the 18th August, to the Council of Bombay, for the Safety of Ragoba, was totally impracticable; of the other, that is the Faith of Toccajee Holcar and Madajee Sindia pledged for his safe Passage through their Territories, no Trial had been made; and Mr. Francis must allow that it was at least capable of valid Objections, but without having deigned to make any other Reply to my Proofs, except a Trait of Ridicule, by which he affected to represent this Government as precipitately resolving on a War with the united Provinces of France and the Maratta Empire in Defence of the religious Scruples of

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

Ragonaut Row. If I have treated this as equivalent to a Proposition made for the Sacrifice of Ragoba to his Enemies, for I do not know the precise Words of my Minute, I must still abide by the same Construction of it.

4th. The Words of our Letter of that Date, of the 20th October, which the Governor General states to be in my Hand Writing, were intended to correct and qualify other Expressions in the Secretary's original Draft which appeared to me too strong. I deem it highly irregular and candid to attribute to me, exclusively or partially, any Language or Opinions which the Board by their unanimous Concurrence and Assent we adopted and made their own. To obtain Concurrence in the Instance in question, something I believe was given up on both Sides. Since however the Governor General has quoted the Correction as it stands in my Writing, it is proposed that the Words in the original Draft may be compared with those which I substituted in the room of them.

8th October 1777.

Original Draft.
This Letter from Fut-Sing, though very illusive, &c.

Alteration agreed to.

—“*though it evades a positive and direct Answer to the Point in question,*” &c.

20th October 1777.

Monsieur le St. Luan remains still at the Irratta Court, and may probably by this Time have entered into an Alliance with Peishwa of the most dangerous Tendency to the Company's Establishments.

and may possibly by this Time have entered into Engagements with the Peishwa of a dangerous Tendency to the Company's Establishments.

4th. Mr. Francis is too liberal in the Use which he makes of the Words “Candour and Regularity.” After having in the preceding Paragraph quoted for the Third or Fourth Time my Opinion, as it was included in the Letter written to Bombay on the 18th of August last, he has no Right to charge me in such strong Terms with want of Candour and Regularity in quoting his Opinions, as included in our Letter of the 18th and 20th of October. It was not my Intention to attribute those Opinions to Mr. Francis exclusively, but to shew that they were not the Sentiments of a Majority in Opposition to his; for which Purpose I appealed to his Hand Writing in the Draft of the Letter. That these were his Opinions at that Time he does not deny, nor do I contend for more. The Quotations of the original Drafts do not contain the Evidence for which they seem to have been intended, since the First Draft, and his Corrections of it, are in Sense the same; the 1st Instance being no more than the Change of a single Word for a Periphrasis, I own of more Precision, and perhaps of Elegance; and the latter of the Words *probably* for *possibly*, and *Alliance* for *Engagements*.

(Signed) W. H.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 27th April 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell, }
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edw^d Wheler, }

The Governor General's Minute, recorded in the Consultation of the 15th Instant, having been calculated agreeable to his Desire, Mr. Francis wrote the following in Reply to it; a Copy of which is sent a Number in the Resolution's Packet.

I will not continue to argue a Question on which I have already submitted to Judgment. If the intent of the present Measures should ever force an Enquiry into the Origin and Motives of them; the Merit of those Persons, who have promoted or opposed them, will not be tried by nice verbal distinctions, or by torturing particular Expressions in Debate to a Sense inconsistent with the general principles, avowed Opinions, and uniform Conduct of those who use them. The Inquiry will commence at the Source of the Measures in question. The Part unanimously taken by this Council in the first Instance, that is when the Treaty between Ragoba and the Presidency of Bombay was communicated to us, will be compared with the Ideas which have since been adopted by some members of the Board on the same Subject, and with the Measures lately resolved on and now in execution. A careful Review of our Debates will lead to a decisive Judgment on that Point, which it

A P P E N D I X, N° 41.

it is most material to the Governor General to establish on solid Grounds; viz. That the Evidence on which it has been resolved to send One Fourth of our whole military Establishment from the Frontiers of Oude to Bombay, is direct, authentic, and material. Much Pains have been taken to collect it, and very high Colourings industriously given, as I think, to Facts of little Moment. There must be a Distress for Evidence when Recourse is had to private Letters, especially in a Case where, if the Intelligence contained in them had been thought of Consequence, it would naturally have been communicated to us through the regular Channel. Mr. Rumbold tells Mr. Hastings, "that Monsieur Bellcombe had embarked from Pondicherry with One hundred Euro-
peans, and some Artillery and Stores, and that it is not improbable but he intends some Atta-
ckance to the Marattas." And Mr. Hornby says, "that he had just heard a Captain in the P. G.
tugueze Service say, that Monsieur Bellcombe was expected at Goa." Neither the Facts nor the Evidence are worth disputing; nor do I think it essential to our Safety to ascertain the Destination of an Armament of One hundred Men. It is probable enough that some low French Agents have been intriguing with the Marattas, and it is not impossible that they may have had Hopes given them of being allowed an Establishment on that Coast. Such Establishment, however, has not yet been granted them, nor would it ever if good Faith on our Part were preserved to the Marattas. They can have no Motive for introducing the French into their Country, but to protect themselves against that Spirit of Conquest which prevails in our Councils, and which they see is never to be satisfied.

The Governor General has quoted Part of the last Letter from the Presidency of Bombay, dated the 8th March, to shew that the Design of Monsieur Bellcombe is occasioned by the Negotiations of Monsieur St. Lubin. What his Designs may be I know not, but I believe it would be very little in his Power to injure us, if it appeared by our Conduct to the Marattas that we were sincerely disposed to keep the Peace with them. There is another Passage in the above Letter which I must beg leave to point out to the Attention of the Court of Directors, as it shews with what Eagerness Evidence is sought for in Support of particular Views, and how readily any Evidence, with that Tendency, is accepted.

On the 23d February Mr. Hastings asserted at the Board, *that it was notorious the French were in Possession of Choul.* If it were so, they must have had Possession Six Weeks at least before the Intelligence of the Fact could have reached us, that is about the Middle of January; yet on the 8th March the Presidency of Bombay tells us, "they much fear Monsieur Bellcombe's Visit will be followed by the French taking Possession of Choul."

Whatever Difference of Opinion may now exist between the Governor General and me on the Subject of our Connection with the Marattas, and the Conduct we have observed to them, there certainly have been Times in which we were agreed. There was a Time when he thought * "the Measures adopted by the Presidency of Bombay had a Tendency to a very extensive and indefinite Scene of Troubles, and that their Conduct was unseasonable, impolitic, unjust, and unauthorized." It is also not very long ago since he thought † "that there was no Reason to doubt, that the Prefence of Ragoba at Bombay would continue to be an insuperable Bar to the Completion of the Treaty concluded with the Maratta Government, and that no sincere Cordiality and good Understanding could be established with them, as long as he should appear to derive Encouragement and Support from the English."

If the Governor General departs from these Opinions I am not bound to follow him; if he adheres to them, we are agreed. In either Case he is bound to prove, that the Measures he now pursues are not built on those which he has heretofore solemnly condemned.

(Signed) P. Francis.

The above Minute having been circulated, the Governor General wrote the following in consequence; a Copy of which was also sent a Number in the Resolution's Packet.

I still adhere to the Opinions delivered by me on the 31st May 1775, and on the 18th of August 1777; they have no Relation, at least none apparent to me, to the present Argument. It is not necessary that we should withhold our Support of the Company's Interests under Charge of the Presidency of Bombay, because we had Occasion to censure their Conduct in the Year 1775, or because Expedients were recommended by us in the Month of August 1777 for the Removal of Ragoba from Bombay, and for a Provision for his personal Safety as the Means of it. This is all that I think it requisite to add, in Reply to the Minute last written by Mr. Francis. For the rest I rely on the growing Evidence of Facts, on the Events yet depending and perhaps not very remote, and on the superior Knowledge of the French Designs which is possessed by those who are to be the ultimate Judges of our Conduct.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Vide Mr.
Hastings' Mi-
nute, 31st May
1775.
Letter to
Bombay,
Aug. 1777.

A P P E N D I X, N° 42.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 6th April 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

THE Governor General lays before the Board the following Drafts, which he has prepared, of Instructions to Colonel Leslie, and of a Letter to the President and Council of Bombay, for their Consideration and Approval :

Draft of Instructions to Colonel Leslie.

1st. Having thought proper to invest you with the Command of the Troops destined to reinforce the Presidency of Bombay, we direct you to proceed with the same under your Charge, by the most convenient and practicable Route to Bombay, or to such other Place as you shall be directed to by the President and Council of that Presidency. We judge the Road through Bundlecund and the Province of Berar the most eligible, on account of our Connection with the Raja of Berar; and recommend it preferably to any other, unless his Answers to the Letters which have been written to him by our President for that Purpose, shall express a Disinclination to allow a Passage to the Detachment through his Territories; in which Case your own Judgment, and the Opportunities of nearer Enquiry, will best enable you to chuse your own Road. You will make it your first Care to reconcile the Chief of the Country through which it may lie, to your March; but if he shall refuse his Assent, we authorize you to prosecute it, even against Opposition; observing the Rules hereinafter prescribed for such Cases, if ever they shall happen.

2d. From the Day on which you shall begin your March, you will obey all Orders which you shall receive from the President and Council of Bombay, except such as shall be contrary to these Instructions.

3d. Our President informs us, that on the 4th of February last he wrote to Mr. Hornby, requesting him to endeavour to obtain from Mahadajee Sindia and Tucoojee Holcar, Passports for the March of a Detachment through their Territories, and their Orders for supplying it with Provisions, in the case of such a Detachment being sent, and ordered to take that Route. A Letter to the same Effect has been since written by our President to Moodajee Boosla, the Chief of Berar, a Translation of which we enclose for your Information. We recommend it to your Attention to take every Opportunity that shall offer in the Course of your March, for cultivating a good Understanding with these Chiefs, particularly the last mentioned; and we authorize you to make use of any Expedient which you shall judge essentially necessary for ensuring your safe Conduct and Supplies of Provisions for your Detachment; provided they shall not have a Tendency to infringe the Treaty existing between the present Ministers of the Maratta State and this Government, or involve this Government in future Engagements. For your fuller Guidance on this Subject, we enclose you a Copy of the Treaty of Poorunder, and you must make it the Ground-work of your Negotiations in the Course of your March. It is needless to require your Attention to the State and Interests of the petty Chiefs, whose Possessions lie near your Line of March; they may be of much Service to you in supplying you with Provisions, and facilitating your Progress, from their natural Enmity to the Marattas, and Fear of their Power.

4th. We recommend to you to observe the strictest Attention to the Safety of the Inhabitants, and their Property, on your March; and that the most exemplary Punishment be inflicted on all Persons detected in marauding, or Acts of personal Violence to the People.

5th. We enjoin you to use the greatest Circumpection in avoiding every Act which may, by Construction, be imputed to you as hostile to the particular States through which you pass, contrary to the Treaty subsisting between the Maratta Ministers and our Government. You must not suffer yourself to be diverted from the Prosecution of your March, by any new Object, however plausible, except only for the Safety or Subsistence of your Troops, indispensably requiring it. You are to be careful, on arriving near any new Frontier, to observe the Form of sending to the Chief of the District a Declaration of your pacific Intentions, a Demand of Permission to pass through his Country, and a Request for the necessary Passports and Assistance of Provisions; and if after such Precautions your March shall be impeded or opposed by Force, you are to repeat the same Declarations to the Leaders in Command of the Forces prepared to oppose you, warning

A P P E N D I X, N° 42.

ing them not to commence a War by a causeless Attack. So positively is your Attention demanded to prevent any possible Imputation of Blame being thrown on your Conduct, that you will not be authorized in acting offensively, even should the Governor and Council of Bombay require it, unless they shall have first declared that there is War, and shall point out to you whom you are to regard as Friends and whom as Enemies.

6th. We desire that you will advise the President and Council of Bombay of your Progress as frequently as possible, whether you have any other Occurrence of Moment to communicate or not; for even such Information will be of itself not only satisfactory, but of the greatest Consequence.

7th. We cannot prescribe the Time of your March; but require you to begin it as soon as you shall be fully provided for it.

To Bombay.

We have already written to you in Duplicate, under Date the 23d February. You will there find our Sentiments at large, on the Subject of the Reinforcement of Troops, which have been ordered to march to your Side of India, with full Instructions for your Conduct in the Services intended to be elicited by them.

From the high Opinion we entertain of the Experience and Abilities of Colonel Matthew Leslie, we have been induced to appoint him to the Command of this Detachment; and as we have every Reason to rely on his Activity, Skill, and good Conduct for the Success of the Expedition, if the Operations of the Army are left to his Judgment, we hope, and earnestly entreat, that he may not be superseded in the Command, unless the Exigency of the Service should at any Time make it absolutely necessary for you to employ the Whole of your European Force, in conjunction with the Troops of this Presidency, and to give the Command to an Officer of superior Rank.

We have given Instructions to Colonel Leslie for his Guidance in every Occurrence that may happen; a Copy of which we enclose: For the rest, we must leave it to you to furnish him with such Orders from Time to Time, as the Nature of the Service may require. The successful Issue of the present Undertaking must necessarily depend, in a great Measure, on a full and unrestrained Communication of Intelligence with Colonel Leslie; we therefore recommend it to you to send him the earliest Advices of every Circumstance that may serve either to guide him in his March, or in the Execution of any Service that may be necessary for him to perform.

We are, &c.

Mr. Francis—I object to the Orders for the March of the Detachment, because I conceive it will not be possible for them to begin their March before the End of this Month, and because the periodical Rains, as I am informed, will be set in long before they can arrive at the Place of their Destination: As for the rest, I am of Opinion, that the pacific Declarations contained in Colonel Leslie's Instructions, will have little Weight in the Minds of the Powers of India, against the hostile Act of forcing a Passage through their Country without their Consent.

Mr. Wheeler—I having already objected to the Armament preparing for Bombay, I shall only add for the Reasons assigned by Mr. Francis, that I likewise object to the March of the Troops.

Mr. Barwell approves of the Drafts of the Letters above entered.

Governor General—It was a very early Subject of my Enquiry to know to what Inconveniences our Troops would be exposed by marching in the Rains, which at first occurred to me as an insurmountable Obstacle: I have every Reason to believe, and am confirmed in this Opinion by that of Colonel Leslie, that the Rainy Season, so far from proving an Objection, will rather facilitate the March and prove a Relief to the Troops, which will suffer more from the Excels in Heats, and from Drought in the elevated and open Plains, through which they will probably pass, than by the Rainy Season, whenever it shall overtake them, as it certainly will; possibly too they will be less exposed to the Attacks of Cavalry in the Rains; and in respect to Health, our own Records afford us one Instance, and I believe more, of our Sepoys, and even European Infantry, recovering from a State of Sicknes by a March begun in the very Height of the Rains, as was the Case in the last Campaign of Colonel Champion.

Agreed, That the above Letters be accordingly written, and immediately dispatched.

A P P E N D I X, N° 43.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council in Bengal to the Court of Directors, dated 20th March 1778. Secret Department.

Par. 2. THE Negotiations lately proposed by a Party of the Ministers at Poona to the President and Council of Bombay, for the Restoration of Ragoba to the principal Authority in the Durbar, of which we have already advised you, appear by the subsequent Letters we have received from that Quarter to be entirely laid aside, at least for the present, as Moraba Furnese, One of the Principals mentioned in it, but apparently the only ostensible Person concerned, had insisted on carrying on the Business with the Presidency of Bombay in his own Name solely; and was informed by them, that they could not agree to take any Part in the Affairs of the Maratta State, unless expressly directed by the Members of that State with whom the Treaty was concluded; which made it necessary that Siccaram Baboo, whose Name was included in the original Overture, should join with him a formal Requisition for the Assistance of the English: Moraba Furnese soon after this quitted Poona, with Intention, as he reported, of proceeding on a religious Duty to Pundapore; and we have heard nothing farther of the Matter in Agitation with him.

3. We have nevertheless continued to carry into Execution the Resolutions which we formed on the ultimo, for the Aid and Support of the Bombay Presidency, as the Contentions among the Ministers at Poona still subsist with unabated Violence; and the Confusion likely to prevail in that Government as well from the repeated Defeats of the Maratta Army under Hurry Punt by Hyder Ally's forces, as from the probable Increase of their intestine Divisions, may we think afford Opportunities to the President and Council at Bombay, aided as they will be by a respectable Force, and ample Resources, to interpose with such Advantages as will be of the most essential Consequence to the Company's Interests, and which if neglected might add new Strength to their Enemies, and possibly hazard the Safety if not the very Existence of that Settlement. We cannot help making these Reflections when we see the alarming Steps which the French have been taking to secure an Influence and Connection in the Maratta Government, and obtain a Port so close to Bombay as Choul is, and when we see the Encouragement which they have met with. Their Intrigues at this Juncture can only be formed with a hostile Intention to the English, and if attended with Success which there is every reason to suppose, an uninterrupted Continuance of them would effectually secure; we think they must be productive of the most dangerous Consequences to the Company's Possessions in India.

4. From these Premises it is evident that no Time ought to be lost in taking every fair Advantage that may offer to frustrate the Designs of the French in their Infancy, and to secure a permanent Peace with the Marattas without openly opposing or counteracting the Schemes of the French, which will be avoided by the Plan we have adopted; as the Object of our declared Pursuit is a Sort of Connection with them, we have therefore completed the extraordinary Supply we resolved to send of Ten Lacks to the Presidency of Bombay, which we have the Pleasure to acquaint you was remitted by Bills of Exchange, at the advantageous Rate of 100 Bombay Rupees for 90 Sicca, and we have ordered a Force consisting of Six Battalions of Brigade Sepoys and One Company of native Artillery to assemble under the Command of Colonel Leslie at Calpee; they will have Orders to march directly to Bombay, or to such other Place as they may be directed to by that Presidency to support them, in case of any Attack made immediately upon your Possessions, or in any Operations which good Policy may lead them to engage in, for the Relief of that Part of the Maratta Government with which we are in Treaty, or for commanding and enforcing the due Execution of the Articles of the Treaty, which to this Day remain unaccomplished.

5. We have taken every Precaution that appears necessary to secure a safe Passage, and a constant Supply of Provisions and Stores for the Use of this Detachment in its Route to Bombay, by Letters which have been written to the different Chiefs, through whose Countries it must pass; and we have commanded the same to the President and Council at Bombay, under whose Orders and Guidance it shall place the commanding Officer, from the Day on which he shall march; we have also directed the Resident at the Vizier's Court to reserve Ten Lacks of Rupees in Gold for the Disbursements of the Expedition.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council in Bengal to the Court of Directors; dated 23d April 1778. Secret Department.

Par. 4. The Detachment of Six Battalions prepared for the Reinforcement of the Presidency of Bombay, is now under Orders to march to that Place, by the Route of Bundelcund and Berar, as hope from the friendly Intercourse which has long subsisted with the Chiefs of those Districts, it will meet with no Impediment in traversing their Countries. Colonel Leslie, who commands this Detachment, having been furnished with Instructions

A P P E N D I X, N° 43, 44.

for his Conduct, a Copy of which will be found in the Packet, we beg Leave to refer you to them, and to a Letter which we wrote to the President and Council at Bombay on the Occasion, which accompanies them.

A P P E N D I X, N° 44.

Extrait of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 11th May 1778.

P R E S E N T,
The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell, }
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler, }

R E C E I V E D the following Letter from Bombay :

Gentlemen,

Mr. Molyn has already advised you of the Revolution that has taken place in the Poona Government.

Though on this important Occasion we earnestly wish to send you the most perfect and distinct Account of the Measures we meant to pursue, yet such is the Uncertainty of our Situation, that we have come to no further Resolution than to order all the Troops we can possibly spare, to be held in Readiness to accompany Ragoba to Poona, the Moment Matters are advanced to that Stage as to render such a Measure proper. An Agent from Moraba had arrived here before his Master had got Possession of Poona, who only signified in general Terms Moraba's Desire that no Time should be lost in sending Ragoba to join his Party, but without making Proposals of any Kind, either to him or us; neither have any yet been made to Mr. Molyn.

According to our Advices Sacaram Bappoo, the Chief Minister, has joined Moraba; but we are sorry to add, that a Compromise is likely to be effected between the Party of Nana Furnese, upon their becoming Security for the Safety of his Person and Treasures from Ragoba's Resentment.

The Approbation you were pleased to give our Plan for conducting Ragoba to Poona, was in a high Degree gratifying to us, as our Proposal proceeded from the most firm Conviction, that our acceding to the Overtures which had been made was the only Resource left us for accomplishing those important Objects we had in view. It is an unfortunate Circumstance, that whilst we through the Want of Powers were unable to take a Part, Ragoba's Friends have found their own Power sufficient to procure their Success without our Assistance, as we may not be able to procure the Terms we should have had a Right to demand, had our Interference been more timely. However, you may be assured, Gentlemen, we shall make the best Stipulations we possibly can for the A^vantage of the Company, in which we shall be guided by your late Instructions, and our Treaty with Ragoba.

Whatever may be the other Consequences of this Revolution, we hope at any Rate it will defeat the Designs of the French, on which Point we instantly gave proper Instructions.

Monsieur Bellcombe arrived at Mahé the 3d ultimo, with the Brilliant of 64 Guns, and the Sartine, the Ship that was at Choul last Season. They both sailed to the Northward on the 10th and 11th, and it was said they were bound to Choul. Sir Edward Vernon sailed from hence the 10th, with the Rippon, Coventry, and Seahorse, and we expect will fall in with, and will accompany, the French Ships up the Coast.

The Force Monsieur Bellcombe brought with him consisted, as we hear, of 300 Europeans which he landed at Mahé, and received on Board 140 of the Garrison: We are doubtful whether he has proceeded up the Coast or remained at Mahé.

Upon an attentive Examination into the State of our Force, we find we shall only be able to detach from the Presidency 300 European Infantry, Rank and File, Two Companies of Artillery, 2,500 Sepoys, and 500 Lascars.

We shall send you further Advices the Moment we can write with more Precision. We have been honoured with your Letters of the 16th and 18th February, but have not yet received the new Cypher. Since writing thus far, your Three Letters of the 26th February have come to Hand.

We are, with Respect,

Gentlemen,

(Signed) W^m Hornby,

&c. &c. Council.

This Letter having arrived on the 9th Instant, it was immediately circulated for the Information of the Board; the following Motion was delivered thereupon by Mr. Francis, and the Opinions of the other Members taken as follow it. *Vide Appendix, N° 45.*

A P P E N D I X.

A P P E N D I X, N° 45.

Minute of Mr. Francis, the 11th May 1778.

MR. Francis—As this Letter leaves us no Room to doubt that a Revolution has taken place in the Poona Government, and as the Re-establishment of Ragoba, by whatever Means it may have been effected, must immediately defeat the Designs attributed to the French, and put an End to my Negotiations which they may have entered into with Nanah Furnesse, and the Party opposed to Ragoba, I conceive that the Expedition under Colonel Leslie can no longer be necessary, even on the Principles on which it was undertaken. No Pretence is left for marching an Army across India, to counteract any real Operations, or supposed Schemes of the French on the Malabar Coast, when the Party which they were to assist, and without whose Assistance in return no Designs of their own could promise the most distant Possibility of Success, is itself overthrown.

For these Reasons I submit my Opinion to the Board, that immediate Orders should be dispatched to Colonel Leslie to suspend the March of the Detachment under his Command; or, if they have already marched, to return forthwith to Calpee, or such Station in the Nabob of Oude's Dominions as Colonel Leslie may think most convenient.

Mr. Wheler—I concur with Mr. Francis in submitting my Opinion to the Board, that immediate Orders should be dispatched to Colonel Leslie to suspend the March of the Detachment under his Command; or, if already marched, to return forthwith to Calpee, or such other Station in the Nabob of Oude's Dominions, as Colonel Leslie may think most convenient.

Governor General—I do not agree to Mr. Francis's Motion, as I think it would be highly impolitic and imprudent to suspend the Progress of the Expedition on such slight Grounds. The Detachment may easily return when we know with Certainty that the Company's Affairs on the other Side of India are in such a State of Security as not to require its Aid. If it should otherwise happen, its Assistance would arrive too late, if it was now recalled, and it should in such an Emergency be again ordered on Service.

Besides we are not yet informed that the Revolution has been effected. We scarcely know the first Movements of it, and should be liable to the Imputation of Levity and Precipitancy, were we to rush weak Grounds to annul a Measure of such Importance in its Design, its Consequences, and universal Notoriety.

I am surprized that Mr. Francis should still attempt to discredit the Supposition of the French Allies at Poona. Does he really regard the Letters and Presents delivered to the Peshwa from the King of France, by the Chevalier St. Lubin; the written Engagements declared by Mr. Molbyn to have been interchanged by St. Lubin and Nanah Furnesse; the extraordinary Visit made by Monsieur Bellecombe to that Coast, and irreconcileable with any other Motive, as Facts of a doubtful Nature? In my Judgment they appear to bear the certain Demonstration of Engagements actually formed, Maturity for Execution; and I should deserve to be deprived with Ignominy of the Office which I fill, if I neglected to use such Means as were in my Power to defeat them.

Upon this Occasion, I must take Notice of a very striking Evidence afforded us in the Letter now before us, not of the Connection of Nanah Furnesse with St. Lubin, but of the French Government and the Administration at Poona.

The Sartine, the Vessel said to have accompanied Monsieur Bellecombe in his Expedition to the Malabar Coast, is the same that brought Monsieur St. Lubin from France.

In the Narrative delivered by Mr. Madgett to Mr. Lewis, it is said that the Sartine was dispatched to China on the 24th of August. The Manner in which this is related, proves evidently that Madgett himself imposed upon this Conclusion of her Destination, since he introduces it not as a political Report, but merely as a Fact, connected with other Circumstances, which were intended to fix a Charge against Monsieur St. Lubin of having embezzled the Cargo, and defrauded his Owners. We now find, that instead of making a Voyage to China, the Sartine went directly to Pondicherry, and returned with Monsieur Bellecombe to the same Coast, if not the same Port, which she quitted. This Circumstance affords more than a presumptive Proof that Monsieur St. Lubin had imparted the Secrets of his Negotiations to Monsieur Bellecombe; that he had solicited Monsieur Bellecombe to fulfil the Engagements which he had formed, and sent the Sartine to Pondicherry for that Purpose; that Monsieur Bellecombe had adopted the Design, and had in compliance with it employed the Sartine in supporting the Men and Stores promised by St. Lubin's Engagements, and himself gone in Person to conduct what might remain of the Negotiation.

I shall take this Occasion to offer a few Remarks on the Intelligence now received from Bombay, which I think may throw some Lights on the State of the Maratta Government, as it appears to have been circumstanced at the Time in which the Letter was written, and may convince the Board of the Necessity of prosecuting with Vigour the Measures which we have begun, until the Designs of them be fully accomplished.

The President and Council of Bombay inform us, that "an Agent from Moraba had been sent to Bombay to notify in general Terms Moraba's Desire, that no Time should be lost in sending Ragoba

A P P E N D I X, N° 45.

"goba to join his Party ; but without making Proposals of any Kind either to him or them, and that neither had any been yet made to Mr. Mostyn ;" and that " a Compromise was likely to be effected between the Party and Nana Furneese." This they mention with Regret, and add, " that it is an unfortunate Circumstance that Ragoba's Friends had found their own Strength sufficient to procure them Success without our Assistance."

I rather regard all these as fortunate Circumstances, if a proper Advantage be made of them, and the following are my Reasons for this Conclusion.

Ragoba, naturally suspicious and timid, as I am told he is, can never trust his Interests and Person to the Discretion of his new Partizans ; Men who were lately his most inveterate Ennemis, and who even in their former Connection with him betrayed him. He will have had more Cause than the Government of Bonibay to be alarmed at an Invitation made to him, to put himself into their Hands without any Stipulation or Proposal, either for his personal Safety or for the Share which he was to expect in the public Administration. Nor could he be better pleased with the Compromise made with Nana Furneese, when in Addition to the personal Disaffection which he has ever borne to Ragoba in a more eminent Degree than the rest, and from which he will have departed only from the Motive of urgent Necessity, possesses the Support of Hurry Punt Furkia, the Commander in Chief of the Forces, and Engagements with the French Nation, which if they are ever carried into Effect will give him an absolute and irresistible Command of the Maratta State.

With such Reasons to distrust the Party which has recalled him to the chief Administration of Affairs he must strongly feel the opposite Necessity of trusting to the Protection of the Government of Bombay as his only and sure Resource : That Government has espoused his Cause with a Zeal far exceeding that which a political Principle alone would have excited, a Zeal heightened by common Disappointment, and a long personal Communication of the same Regrets, Apprehensions, and Hopes.

Such being his Situation, I cannot suppose that he will consent to move from Bombay without an English Military Force, nor perhaps under any future Situation of his Affairs, however prosperous, to part with it while those are in Power to whose Friendship he may think he can trust.

The Presidency of Bombay have a Right to require Conditions of equal Advantage for that which they bestow. These are not likely to be unreasonable, and whatever they may be he is not in a Condition to refuse them.

The Union of Nana Furneese with the Party must inevitably produce this good Effect. It will indispose every other Member of the Administration to the French Alliance, by which if it takes Place, he alone will be a Gainer. Had he fallen in the Contention, it is not improbable that his Adversaries would have taken up the Negociation where he left it, and one great, if not the only real Benefit expected from the Revolution, would have been lost to us. In a Word, I repeat that this Accommodation must prove an Advantage. It completes a System of disjointed and discordant Parts, which the Government of Bombay may hold together, but no other Power can ; or by withdrawing their Grasp, let it fall to Pieces, and erect any other that they please in the room of it.

But to enable them to support the Character which I have assigned them in this important Scene, they must possess the Means both of surmounting all immediate Obstacles to Ragoba's Elevation, and of maintaining him in the Possession of it, until his Authority shall be thoroughly confirmed by the Suppression of every Party capable of opposing it. The same Means, and the same Opportunity will equally serve for the Advancement and Security of the Company's Interests, which, as their primary Concern, I cannot suppose will be neglected. For the first of these Ends, the Force which they tell us they propose to send will be sufficient ; it will preserve the Ascendant of Ragoba over his Associates, and quiet his Apprehensions with respect to their Fidelity : But it may prove an inadequate Provision for future Contingencies. The Reinforcement which we have prepared for them, will render their Strength equal to any Service : I have no Doubt of its having already produced some Effect ; for if we reflect upon the Languor which followed the first Overtures of the Confederacy, and the sudden Execution of their Design, in the same Instant of Time in which the Knowledge of the Armament formed by this Government must have reached the confederated Party, we must attribute the former to a Diffidence in their own Strength, and the latter to the Confidence excited by their expected Aid ; which though not immediately intended for them, was professedly calculated to counteract the Designs of our common Adversary.

If in the Crisis of such a Project we were to recall the Detachment, it might alarm our Friends and inspire their Enemies, who in Effect are ours, with the Hope of succeeding in any Attempts to subvert all that has been already effected. By a Perseverance we shall be sure of maintaining the Ground which we may have gained ; and if it should be found necessary to let the Detachment proceed to its Destination, of commanding every Point which we can wish for the Company. On the Whole, I repeat, because I think it conclusive of the present Argument, that if the Services of the Detachment shall not be wanted, nothing will have been lost by its having marched, and it may be easily recalled ; but if it should be now withdrawn, and its Aid should be hereafter required, it will be too late to afford it.

All the Difficulties which seemed at first to oppose the Measure have gradually disappeared : The Apprehension of having the whole Force of an Empire to contend with is removed by the late Movements at Poona ; and the Difficulty of sublisting an Army in so long a Route is removed by the Offer of Supplies, and of every Assistance, made by Moodajee Boollah, the only Power lying between the Point of its Departure, and the Confines of Poona. After such Pains taken to obtain

A P P E N D I X, N° 45, 46.

, such Advantages ought not to be lightly abandoned. Even the Credit of our Government, Measure which has attracted the Attention and Expectation of all Indostan, demands the Protection of it.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Mr. Francis—The Letter from Bombay begins with these Words: “ Mr. Mostyn has already advised you of the Revolution that has taken place in the Poona Government.” I consider this Fact, and I draw the same Conclusion from it with the President and Council of Bombay, that never may be the other Consequences of this Revolution, they hope at any rate it will defeat the designs of the French.

It is not of Moment to the present Question, whether I relinquish or adhere to my First Opinion of the Designs, because I suppose an Event to have happened, which admitting such Designs to have existed, necessarily defeats the Effect of them. If the Board do not believe the Fact, they will of course continue the Expedition on the Principles on which it was undertaken: If they do believe it, I cannot comprehend how we should be liable to an Imputation of Levity or Precipitancy in suspending the Execution of a Measure which an unforeseen Event has made unnecessary.

Governor General—It matters not what Interpretation the President and Council of Bombay have upon Mr. Mostyn’s Letter to this Government, since it is a Fact that Mr. Mostyn’s Letter does not say that a Revolution had actually taken place in the Poona Government: It says only, that three only of the Confederacy had joined their Forces, amounting to Thirty thousand Horse and Foot; that they expected to be joined by Succaram Baboo at the Village of Courey; that Fifty Horsemen had been sent into the City of Poona by Moraba Furnese, to assist at a Proclamation made in the Name of Ragoba; and that Nana Furnese, with an Army of 5000 Men, was encamped at the foot of the Hill of Proonder, and had summoned all his Friends and Adherents to join him. These are the only essential Facts contained in Mr. Mostyn’s Letter, and certainly do not amount to a decided Revolution; neither can I consider it as much more advanced by the loose Intelligence contained in the Letter from the Presidency of Bombay, that a Compromise was likely to be effected between the Party and Nana Furnese. From what I know of the Situation, Interests, and Connections of the different Parties, I am convinced, that without the Support of an English Force it will never be accomplished: It is not necessary in this Place to detail my Reasons; it is sufficient only to have shewn, that the Work, though begun with every Prospect of Success, was very far from being accomplished at the Period of which we are speaking, and of course that the Measure in question is not rendered unnecessary, as Mr. Francis has stated.

Mr. Barwell—I do not think the Reasons assigned by Mr. Francis will warrant an instant Assent to this Proposition: I shall have no Objection to acquiesce in it as soon as the great political Measure has been secured, which was the Object of the Expedition projected to Bombay by this Government.

The Majority of the Board being against Mr. Francis’s Motion, it is resolved in the Negative.

A P P E N D I X, N° 46.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 21st May 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,

Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

RECEIVED the following Letters from Fort Saint George :

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

We have the Honour to enclose you a Copy of a Letter just received from Bombay, with a Copy of our Answer, for your Information.

In consequence of your Letter to us of the 4th of February, we ordered the Number of Troops requested by the Gentlemen at Bombay to be in Readiness to march if it should be thought necessary on a further Application from them; but the Season is now so far advanced, that it would be impossible for them to reach Anjengo in Time to embark before the Monsoon breaks on the Malabar Coast: We propose therefore to hold them still here in Readiness to proceed to Bombay the first favourable Opportunity, should the Gentlemen there continue to be in want of them, and the Situation of Affairs will

A P P E N D I X, N° 46.

will enable us to dispense with this Force: We shall in the mean Time be obliged to you for such Information as you may think proper to afford us, regarding the Assistance which you propose yielding from Bengal, and the Designs you may have further formed in consequence of the present State of the Government at Poona.

In your Letter of the 4th February you acknowledged the Receipt of our's dated the 16th January, and promised us your Sentiments upon it shortly; we hope in consequence, that you will be pleased to favour us with them as soon as possible.

We have, &c.

Fort Saint George,
29th April 1778.

(Signed)

Tho' Rumbold,
&c. Council

To the Honourable Thomas Rumbold, Esquire, &c.

Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter of the 13th February, and beg Leave to congratulate Mr. Rumbold on the Appointment to the Government of your Presidency.

The Pattamars dispatched from Madras the First of March arrived here without any Packet from you; but as several of the private Letters which they brought concur in the Intelligence, that you had ordered a Body of Forces to the Assistance of this Presidency, in consequence of the Requisition made in our Letter of the 12th December, we can only impute our not having heard from you, to your Packet having been intercepted by the Marattas; the Pattamars having informed us the Packet of Letters was stopped and opened near Poona.

As the Season is so far advanced as not to allow of our waiting for more particular Advice from you, we have judged it expedient to give immediate Orders for a sufficient Number of Vessels proceeding to Anjengo to bring up the Troops which according to our Accounts consist of 200 European Infantry, 50 Artillery, and a Battalion of Sepoys; and we hope we shall not be disappointed in our Expectations, that our Vessels will find them at that Place ready for Embarkation.

We have thought it necessary to apprise the Commanding Officer at Palamcottah of our Intentions, and we beg Leave to enclose a Copy of our Letter to him for your Notice.

Mr. Moflyn has advised you of the Revolution which has happened in the Maratta Government; and in consequence thereof we have judged it necessary to collect all the Force we possibly can to accompany Ragoba to Poona.

Sir Edward Vernon, in his Passage down the Coast having fell in with the Brilliante and another French Ship, which from the Intelligence we had received we had before suggested to him were coming with a Design to form a Settlement at Choul, a Maratta Port close to the Mouth of our Harbour, he has again returned hither in order to prevent their Scheme taking Effect; and we hope and trust, that in consequence of the late Revolution we shall be able totally to destroy the French Influence at the Court of Poona, an Object of the utmost Importance to the Honourable Company.

We have, &c.

Bombay Castle,
8th April 1778.

(Signed) William Hornby.

A true Copy.

(Signed)

Charles Oakeley,

Secretary.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, &c.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

We are much concerned to observe, by your Letter of the 8th instant, that our's to you of the 15th January had miscarried. We now transmit a Duplicate, by which you will perceive, that from the Posture of Affairs at that Time we thought ourselves under the Necessity of declining an immediate Compliance with your Request for so large a Body of Troops as 250 Europeans and a Battalion of Sepoys, to be assembled at Palamcottah for the Purpose of marching to your Assistance. This Miscarriage of our Letter gives us the more Concern, as you have been led to send Vessels to Anjengo, in the Idea that the Troops had been collected at Palamcottah as you desired, and were ready to march to Anjengo for Embarkation.

We assure you, Gentlemen, that we paid every Attention to your Request, and should have been happy if the Situation of Affairs here had permitted us to comply with it in the Extent you wished; but circumstanced as we then were, the Measure appeared too unsafe and imprudent to be adopted: However, upon hearing from the Governor General and Council of Bengal, that their Sanction and Assistance would be given to your Proceedings, and upon their opening and recommending the Design more fully to us, we then determined, notwithstanding the incomplete State of our Establishment, to order the Troops you had before requested to hold themselves in Readiness to march. They are now under these Orders; but as the Season is too far advanced to send them to Anjengo, we shall keep them in Readiness to proceed to your Assistance the first Opportunity that offers, if your absolute Want of them should continue, and no material Change should happen here in the mean Time: But we must observe to you, that the Number of our Europeans fit for Duty is to

small

A P P E N D I X, N° 46.

Small and disproportionate, that we deem it unsafe, even in the most favourable Times, to detach any Part of them upon so distant a Service; and we wish therefore that Sepoys only may be required, as we can with much less Difficulty replace their Losses.

Private Advices from Bengal mention, that the Detachment ordered from thence were to winter at Morah, and afterwards proceed on their March.

Fort Saint George,
29th April 1778.

We are, &c.
(Signed) Tho' Rumbold,
&c. Council.

A true Copy.
(Signed) Charles Oakeley,
Secretary.

The following Minutes having been delivered on the 16th instant on Papers circulated from the Military Department, are ordered to be recorded in this Place.

In Circulation, 16th May 1778, Three Letters from Colonel Leslie, dated 26th of April, 1st and 3d May.

Governor General—I have to propose submitting the Requests in Colonel Leslie's Letters to the Consideration of the Commander in Chief, and his Opinion required on the Propriety of complying with them.

Mr. Barwell—I acquiesce to Colonel Leslie's Propositions, as far as they may be judged proper by the Commander in Chief.

Mr. Francis—I must acquiesce in the above Proposal, if it be unalterably determined that the Detachment shall proceed; but I should imagine the Letters received this Day from Mr. Mostyn at Fort Saint George would naturally induce the Board to suspend their March, at least until the Mins are over, or until some direct and positive Intelligence shall be received of the Designs intended to the French, and some overt Act of their's tending to carry such Designs into Execution. Whatever these may have been, the Presidency of Bombay, in their Letter of the 8th of last Month that of Fort Saint George, say, "that they hope and trust, that in consequence of the late Revolution they shall be able totally to destroy the French Influence at the Court of Poona."

This Influence, if we may believe Mr. Mostyn, could not at any Time have been very considerable, notwithstanding any Reports to the contrary industriously circulated by a low French Agent, whose infamous Character is too well known in India to entitle him to the smallest Degree of Credit. Mr. Mostyn, in his Letter of the 19th April, says, "that when the Poona Durbar demanded of him, Whether he had written to us on the Subject of their having given a Port to the French, and appointed Monsieur St. Lubin to the Command of their Artillery, and whether to his Knowledge it was so? he replied, that he had not informed us thereof, neither did know that any thing had been yet done for the French."

As this is the Case, and as we know with Certainty that in November last there was no Expectation of a Rupture between the Two Crowns in Europe, I trust the Board will at least suspend the Execution of a Measure evidently tending to a Rupture with France, and founded either on Facts which appear to have been grossly misrepresented, or on the Supposition of Designs which, if they ever existed, are defeated without our Interposition.

Governor General—I must request Mr. Francis's Permission to transfer the above Minute to the Secret Department, to which the Subject properly belongs.

Mr. Francis—Agreed: The other Letters from Mr. Auriol came to me at the same Time, and I wrote on this Paper by Mistake.

10th May 1778. (Signed) Robert Kyd, Secretary.

The Governor General—I cannot discover any thing either in the Letter from Fort Saint George, in Mr. Mostyn's, which ought to induce us to recall the Detachment, or to suspend its Operations; on the contrary, the whole Tenor of the Letter proves the Necessity of its proceeding.

Whatever Hopes the President and Council of Bombay may have entertained of the Effects of the Revolution, neither was the Revolution accomplished at the Time in which their Letter was written, nor was the French Influence in any apparent Degree lessened by their Prospect of it: Notwithstanding Mr. Mostyn's Remonstrances, and the Promise made to him by the Ministers on the 10th of April, that the Chevalier St. Lubin should be dismissed from Poona, it is certain that he was not gone on the 19th.

Mr. Francis has quoted a Part of Mr. Mostyn's Reply to the Ministers, to which I shall add the remainder, and leave it to the impartial Readers of these Papers to form their own Conclusions on both:

"But that from Monsieur St. Lubin's being permitted to remain here, notwithstanding you had been informed of the Promises made me by the Durbar, that he should be dispatched as late Decrera, together with the Assurances which Monsieur St. Lubin had given to all the French Settlements, that they had delivered Choul into his Hands, and that the French Flag was actually flying there; you, Gentlemen, might with very great Propriety imagine such was absolutely the Case. I then desired they would inform me what were the real Intentions of the Durbar with respect to the French: When Succaram Baboo replied, That they had the dispatching Monsieur St. Lubin

A P P E N D I X, N° 46.

" under Consideration : And I have since received Assurances from Moraba, that this Mat
" should be settled agreeable to our Wishes."

Neither to the Suspicions thus pointedly expressed by Mr. Mostyn, nor to the direct Question
put to them in my Letters, have the Ministers made any Reply, except an Assurance given to M
Mostyn, that they had the dispatching of St. Lubin under Consideration, and that this Mat
should be settled agreeably to our Wishes. Not to deny a direct and formal Charge, preferred
those who have a Right to a Reply, is to admit it.

I have no Authority for the Belief, much less do I know with Certainty, that in November
there was no Expectation of a Rupture between the Two Crowns in Europe. But why is this so
posed? Neither is the Design which has been attributed to Monsieur St. Lubin connected with the
an Event; nor can a Provision made by this Government, to strengthen one of its Dependencies,
any Respect tend to it. Monsieur St. Lubin may bring Men and Arms to Poona, and disrupt
that the Maratta Army; our Detachment may traverse the whole Empire of Indostan; and
Peace between Great Britain, and France continue uninterrupted, and insensible of such
Movements.

In the Opinion which I delivered on a former Motion made by Mr. Francis for recalling the Detach
ment, I objected to the Grounds of it as erroneous, and I intimated my Belief that the Atta
ment, which Hurry Punt Furkia, the Commander in Chief of the Maratta Forces, was known to be
to Nana Furness, would prevent a Reconciliation from being effected between Nana Furness and R.
agonath Row. A Circumstance obscurely related by Mr. Mostyn, corroborates this Opinion, and affords
but too much Reason for the Suspicion that Nana Furness in the Refusal to accept of the proffered
Terms of Accommodation, and in the Desire which he has shewn to retire to the River Kitna, or
Station of Hurry Punt Furkia, still looked to that Chief for Protection. I am informed and by g
Authority, that the Maratta General suddenly marched towards Poona on the first Intelligence of the
projected Revolution, and was followed by the Army of Nizam Ally Cawn, with the same Design.
I understand of preventing or defeating it.

As it will not be exacted from me to act upon Conclusions drawn from Premises which I do not
allow; and as the Resolution which has been taken to send a powerful Military Aid to the Procl
of Bombay was founded on a supposed Necessity of guarding the Company's Interests in that Country
ter against impending Dangers; while those Dangers exist or appear to exist, it will be my Duty
sistently to support and prosecute the Measure undertaken at my Instance. These Dangers origi
from the Intrigues of Nana Furness, the executive Ruler of the Maratta State, and the Chevalier
St. Lubin, a proclaimed Minister of the Crown of France. Mr. Francis affirms that the Grounds
of this Apprehension are all dissipated by a Revolution which by the Expulsion of Nana Furness from
the Government has at once disabled him and annihilated the French Influence in the Maratta Coun
cils; and therefore he insists on the Recall or Suspension of the intended Aid, as no longer necessary
even on the Grounds on which it was proposed to be given.

These are not Mr. Francis's Words, for I have not his Minute at this Time before me, but they
contain his Sense, and I hope not discoloured in the Expression.

To this a summary View of the State of the contending Parties, as it is described by our latest Ad
vices, will be a complete Answer.

Ragonath Row, the intended Chief of the new Administration, had not left Bonibay nor was likely
soon to leave it: His Friends at Proonner had proclaimed a Change of Government, but had not
resolved on the Form of it nor prevailed on their late Competitor, even with all the Terrors which
are the usual Attendants of new Dominion, to participate it with them. The French Minister re
mained undisturbed at the Capital, and Two powerful Armies were marching to the Relief of Nana
Furness. Such was the Revolution which is now stated as a Proof that our political Affairs at Bon
bay are in a State of Quiet and Security, and as a Reason for repealing the Measures which have been
adopted for those Ends.

(Signed)

Warren Hastings.

Seen.

(Signed)

Edward Wheler.

Mr. Francis—I am not solicitous to refute Opinions that differ from mine, when the Measure
they relate to are unalterably determined. My Reply to the preceding Minute is intended for my
own Justification, and to satisfy the Court of Directors, that if I persist in a Conduct opposed to the
decided Sense of the Majority, it is not from Obstinacy or Passion, but that I have some Reason on my
Side, and that I am not so ill-advised as to endeavour to support any Opinion by appealing to Ev
idence which proves directly against me.

It is said that when the last Letter from Bombay was written, the Revolution at Poona was not
accomplished; that the French Influence was not yet lessened by the Prospect of it, and that Monsieur
St. Lubin was not dismissed on the 19th April.

The Presidency of Bonibay, in their Letter to Fort Saint George of the 28th, say, "Mr. Mostyn ha
advised you of the Revolution which has happened in the Maratta Government." That they were
preparing to accompany Ragoba to Poona with all the Force they could collect, and that "in conse
quence of the late Revolution they hope and trust they shall be able totally to destroy the French In
fluence there." It appears by Mr. Mostyn's Letter of the 16th, that the Marattas had not delivered
Choul to the French, nor engaged Monsieur St. Lubin in their Service; in this State of Things it is
immaterial to any essential Interest of ours, whether Monsieur St. Lubin continues at Poona or not.

A P P E N D I X, N° 46.

In stating the Facts, with the direct Evidence that belongs to them, I meet the Governor General's Argument on his own Principles: I admit of a Supposition destitute of all Foundation, that the present Expedition was undertaken to effect a Revolution in the Maratta Government, consequently that there is a Necessity for its proceeding until such Revolution is accomplished; I allow it to be supposed, that the Prevalece of French Influence at the Court of a neutral Power would warrant our invading their Country and taking Possession of their Capital, and that as long as a French Minister permitted to reside there our military Operations ought not to be countermanded. If the Facts could by any Means be accommodated to the Conclusions drawn from them, the Governor General still bound to defend the Principles on which they are formed: They are such as I do not think necessary to dispute: Those which I profess, and have steadily endeavoured to pursue, are taken from the highest Authority, and founded, as I b lieve, upon true Policy, on Justice, and right Reason: to preferre the Peace of India; to make the Safety of Bengal the principal Object of all our Deliberations; never to employ the Company's Forces in distant Expeditions; and in all our Treaties with the Country Powers to take Care that they be so framed, as neither immediately or eventually, possible, to engage the Company in any Disputes between those Powers. It is not for us to examine the Wisdom or Weaknes of a System established on such Authority; it is our Duty to conform it.

The Distance of Time is sufficient to assure us, that in November last the Peace between the Two Powers was not interrupted. A private Letter from Constantinople, dated in December, and which every Body here has seen, takes Notice, that at that Time there was no Expectation of a Rupture with France or Spain. The March of an English Army across India in Time of profound Peace, a Measure too extraordinary not to attract the Attention of the French Government and excite Suspicion: Appearances may perhaps lead them to conjecture, that the real Object of the Expedition is only the Plunder of Poona, now supposed to be the richest City in India, but it will furnish them with Reasons sufficient to charge us with disturbing the Peace of India; to impute Designs to us in which their own Security may be concerned; and to justify their taking Part in a Quarrel which we alone have created. When a Suspicion alone that the French are carrying on Intrigues to Prejudice of our Interest at Poona is supposed to warrant the March of an Army across India to intercept their Designs, we cannot without manifest Inconsistency affirm, that the March of this Army gives them no Ground of Umbrage or Alarm, or that it has no Tendency to interrupt the Peace between the two Nations.

If the Contentions in the Maratta Government are really not ended by the late Revolution, I cannot apprehend, that by engaging in them we are laying the Foundation of a general War in India, which cannot fail of extending to Europe. The French and English have usually began Hostilities in this Country as Auxiliaries to some of the native Powers, but they soon become Principals. If Defence and Security of our present Acquisitions were not at all Times the only Object we ought have in view, this certainly is not a Season for provoking a Rupture with France: Every Measure of Prudence and Moderation dictate ought to be taken to avoid it. *If our political Affairs at Bombay are not in a State of Quiet and Security*, it depends on that Presidency to provide for their own Safety, by disengaging themselves from Quarrels in which the Company's Interests are not concerned; when they tell us, that *they are collecting all the Force they possibly can to accompany Rag-ba to Poona*, could be the greatest Reassurance to them not to conclude, that neither Bombay nor any of the Company's Possessions are in Danger of being invaded in the Absence of the Army established for their Defence.

If they deceive us in asserting that a Revolution has happened in the Maratta Government; if it be true that the French Minister remains undisturbed at the Capital, and that Two powerful Armies, whose Existence we have never been informed, are marching to the Assistance of Nana Funeze, does not follow that an Expedition, which never had a Revolution for its Object, should not be intermanded until that Revolution be compleated. It does not follow that we have a Right to march an Army to Poona, because the Minister of a Crown with which His Majesty is at Peace, is permitted to remain there undisturbed; or that it would not be our wisest Policy to suffer the Competitors for the Maratta Government (if such Competition still subsists) to decide their internal Quarrels, or to waste their Strength against each other without our Interposition.

(Signed) Philip Francis.

A P P E N D I X, N° 47.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 1st June 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

THE following Minute from the Governor General was sent in since the last Council, and circulated. The Minutes entered after it were returned upon it.

Governor General—By imputing Principles for the Purpose of reflecting on them, and by repeating Facts which have been denied, and Opinions which have been disputed, without any Notice taken of the preceding Reasonings upon them, a very short and simple Question may be drawn out to an endless Length, and the original Subject lost in the Changes which are rung upon it.

I do not allow the Principles which Mr. Francis has imputed to me, and has been pleased to state he admits: Of course it is unnecessary to reply to his Inferences from them.

Mr. Francis still persists in affirming, that a Revolution has been accomplished at Poona, by which Ragoba has been restored to the chief Administration of the Maratta State, the French Influence destroyed, and the Designs of St. Lubin defeated; to this I refer for a Reply to the Report contained in my last Minute on this Subject, and to Time, the best Arbitrator in such a Contest.

In Mr. Francis's Minute of the 16th Instant, he said, that "we know with Certainty that: " November last there was no Expectation of a Rupture between the Two Crowns in Europe. To this I replied in my Minute of the 20th Instant. He now repeats the same Insinuation; to what Purpose I can only conjecture: The same Reply will serve for both.

If the March of an English Army through a Tract of Country far remote from any Possessions of the French, is likely to serve as a Pretext for interrupting the Peace between the Two Nations, I think it full as likely that the same Effect may be inferred from any other given Act of our Government. The simple Operation of the Revenue, whether for the Alleviation or Increase of the public Taxes, may be construed to aim at the Ruin of the French Commerce in this Country: The Cantonments at Barrapoor may give Umbrage by their Vicinity to Ghirety; and the unusual Assemblage of our Forces in the Neighbourhood of the European Settlements may be attributed to a Design of plundering Chandernagore; yet the Acts of Government ought not to be suspended, because such arbitrary Constructions might be put upon them; neither ought we to withhold the Assistance which the Interests of our common Masters require at their Presidency of Bombay, because there is a Possibility that the French may take an unreasonable Offence at it. It is sufficient that we neither commit nor even afford the slightest Show of committing, any Act of Hostility against them, unless we arm ourselves against any Hostilities which they may hereafter commit, may be termed such: But to remain quiet and passive, and to abstain from the necessary Precautions of Self-Preservation, because hostile Designs have been imputed to the French, and therefore every such Precaution must point at them as its Object, would be to adopt a Principle of humble Forbearance, of which I have never yet read a single Example in the British History; and which, for the national Honour, hope will never appear in the latest Annals of it. If in these Reflections I have misconstrued Mr. Francis's Words, I have unwillingly wronged him; and therefore, for his Vindication and my own, I will here subjoin them.

" When a Suspicion alone that the French are carrying on Intrigues to the Prejudice of our Interests at Poona, is supposed to warrant the March of an Army across India to counteract those Designs, we cannot, without manifest Inconsistency, affirm, that the March of this Army gives them no Ground of Umbrage or Alarm, or that it has no Tendency to interrupt the Peace between the Two Nations."

Mr. Francis has introduced Four Quotations from the Company's Orders to justify his Opposition to the present Measures; of these Quotations One only appears to me to be in point. To this, and to the others, if they are supposed to imply a Prohibition to send a Military Aid to the Presidency of Bombay, I shall oppose the following Extract from their Commands of the 5th February 1777, which as the most recent of course supersede all Orders of a prior Date, in those Points in which they disagree.

" His (Ragoba's) Pretensions to the supreme Authority, either in his own Right or as Guardian to the Infant Peshwa, appear to us better founded than those of his Competitors, and therefore the Conditions of the Treaty of Poona have not been strictly fulfilled on the Part of the Marattas; and if from any Circumstances you shall deem it expedient, we shall have no Objection to an Alliance with Ragoba, on the Terms agreed upon between him and the Governor and Council of Bombay."

A P P E N D I X, N° 47.—48 and 49.

To obviate the Inference which may be naturally suggested by this Quotation, I think it proper to observe that an Alliance with Ragoba is not the Object of the Measures which have been lately undertaken by this Government for the Support of the Presidency of Bombay. Their declared Object is to give Security and Permanency to the Peace of that Settlement. It has fortunately happened that while we were in the Pursuit of this Object Ragoba was offered to us as an Instrument; the Company have warranted us to accept him as such, and he is the most likely to prove useful of any that we could have chosen: We have accepted him, and while his Agency shall be necessary to the above End, and can be employed with a sacred Observance of every other engagement, I hope we shall continue to employ it.

As the Grounds and Design of the late Measures which have been so violently contested by Sirs. Francis and Wheler, have been explained in the fullest Detail in my Minutes of the 22d January, 2d February, and 6th April; I hope I may have Leave to refer to these for a fuller and more authentic Comprehension of the Subject, and even for the Correction of any Inaccuracies to which in these loose Debates I may have inadvertently fallen; for such I suspect.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Mr. Francis—On the preceding Minute I shall only observe, that when I assert any thing about it, I constantly give the Evidence from which I draw my Conclusion. Assertions so supported are gratuitous. It seems the Object of the Expedition is to give Security and Permanence to the Peace of Bombay. Besides that Bombay has never been attacked, the Description of the Measure is defective in Point of Accuracy and Precision, and gives no clear determinate Idea of the Thing intended. Such general Declarations may easily be accommodated to any Event, or any Purpose. It is probable the Court of Directors should know that Monsieur Bellecombe, on whose Visit to the French Settlements on the Malabar Coast such violent Stress was laid, as if the most alarming Designs were to be inferred and the most formidable Consequences to be expected from it, is returned quietly to Madicherry. I have this Fact from Captain Panton.

(Signed) P. Francis.

Governor General—It was not my Intention in these loose Debates, to describe the Design of the Measures with the Accuracy and Precision of formal Instructions, but merely to state their general and essential Object. For a minuter Detail I have referred to my former Minutes which were taken for that End.

I presume that the Fact which Mr. Francis relates on the Authority of Captain Panton, was referred to him with many other Circumstances which had a Relation to the Designs which were communicated to Monsieur Bellecombe, and it is possible that the Sum of their Evidence may amount to a Proof of it. I hope that Mr. Francis will in Candour add all the Information which he has received on this Subject from Captain Panton.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Mr. Francis—Captain Panton did not mention any other Particulars to me. The Conclusion I meant to draw from the Fact was, that admitting the French to have entertained Hopes of obtaining from the Marattas an Establishment on the Malabar Coast, and to have formed a Plan for carrying it, such Hopes and Designs must now be disappointed.

(Signed) P. Francis.

A P P E N D I X, N° 48 and 49.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 21st May 1778.

THE following Minutes were delivered upon the Draft of a Letter prepared by Order of the Governor General, in Answer to a Letter from Fort Saint George, and laid before the Board for their Approbation :

Mr. Francis—Letters of this great Importance ought to be debated in Council, where the Members of the Board may receive Information, if they want it, and any Doubts that may occur in them may be cleared up.

I think the Refusal of a Supply of Money to the Presidency of Fort Saint George, who tell "they have none in their Treasury, nor any Control over the Resources of the Carnatic," is peremptory and unqualified; especially considering the unexampled Profusion with which we have supplied Bombay. The Reasons for which it is supposed that a Remittance to Madras may

A P P E N D I X, N° 48 and 49.

be made at any Time, and with less Difficulty in Time of War than Peace, appear to me speculative and uncertain; nor do I see any Necessity for assigning such Reasons.

As for continuing the March of the Detachment to Bombay, I have re-considered the Subject with the utmost Attention, and in every Point of View, and must own I am unable to discover any tolerable Pretence, much less a solid Argument, for pursuing that Measure, even on the Principle on which it was undertaken.

A Resolution to send so considerable a Portion of the Force established for the Defence of the Provinces, to the other Side of India, will never appear warrantable in the Eyes of the Court Directors on any Ground but that of clear irresistible Necessity, unless they should have departed from their own most solemn and deliberate Declarations and Orders on this Subject. In the Letter of the 15th December 1775, Par. 4, they say, "We disapprove all such distant Expeditions as may eventually carry our Forces to any Situation too remote to admit of their speedy and safe Return to the Protection of our own Provinces, in case of Emergency."

In our original Instructions they direct us, *in all our Deliberations and Resolutions, to make the Safety and Prosperity of Bengal our principal Object*. I state these Orders, out of many to the same Effect, that the Board may have an Opportunity of considering, before it be too late, whether it be possible to reconcile the present Measures to those Principles of Policy which the Court Directors have so strongly and urgently inculcated for the particular Guidance of this Government.

(Signed) P. Francis.

Mr. Wheler—I subscribe to the Opinion of Mr. Francis, on the Answer proposed by the Governor General to the Letter received from Fort Saint George.

Governor General—I desire that the Secretary will acquaint Mr. Francis if it is his Desire that Meeting of the Board shall be held to take into further Consideration the Letter proposed to be written to Fort Saint George; I shall have no Objection to the Council assembling To-morrow Morning for that Purpose. The Secretary accordingly wrote to Mr. Francis, in Conformity to the Governor General's Minute.

The Governor General having proposed an Addition to the Letter to Fort Saint George, it was circulated, and the Opinions of the Board, which are entered after it, were delivered thereon.

Governor General—I beg Leave to recommend an additional Clause to the Letter proposed to be written to the President and Council of Fort Saint George, to the following Effect: That if they should see a Prospect of a Continuance of the Troubles at Poona, we recommend to them to assemble a Force near the Northern Frontier of the Carnatic, for the Purpose of affording either direct Assistance to the Presidency of Bombay, or a Diversion in their Favour, in any Way which they may judge most advisable.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

I disapprove of the above Clause to the Letter proposed to be written to the President and Council of Fort Saint George, both because I apprehend the Military Establishment of that Presidency is already too much weakened by the Draft of the Detachment now under Orders for Bombay, to admit of a Second Equipment; and likewise, because I am of Opinion that our Interference in the Troubles of Poona was founded in bad Policy, consequently, the further we engage the more we shall involve the Affairs of the Company.

(Signed) Edward Wheler.

The Military Establishment of the Carnatic, including the Nabob's disciplined Troops, is equal to that of Bengal, though the Territory which it has to defend is scarce equal to a Tenth Part of that which is guarded by the latter.

The Detachment now under Orders for Bombay cannot accomplish its original Destination before the Month of November; it is of course not likely to proceed at all.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

Mr. Francis—I have heard of no Troubles yet at Poona, but if any have existed there, the late Revolution must have put an End to them; neither have I heard that Bombay was likely to be attacked, consequently can see no Occasion for sending them Assistance. The Presidency of that Settlement do not seem to think Bombay in any Danger, when by their last Letter we find that they were going to march the principal Part of their Force to Poona. I disapprove of the Motion for these Reasons, and because I think it rather too arbitrary and inconsistent to refuse the Presidency of Fort Saint George a Supply of Money, when they tell us they have not a Rupee in their Treasury, and in the same Letter to order them to assemble a Force upon their Frontiers, and perhaps to march into the Maratta Country, which we know it is impossible for them to do without Money.

It seems to be forgotten, that all the Military Operations now in Agitation must be executed in the Midst of the Rains.

(Signed) P. Francis.

I agree to the Governor General's Motion.

6

(Signed) Richard Barwell.

Governor

A P P E N D I X, N° 48 and 49.

Governor General—To Mr. Francis's Minute I reply, that it has been supposed that the Island of Bombay was in Danger of immediate Invasion; that it will be too late to make remote Propositions for the Assistance of that Settlement when it is engaged in actual Hostilities; that Mr. Mostyn's last Letter, and the other Advices from that Quarter, afford us every Reason to expect a Scene of great Troubles at Poona; that our Application to the Presidency of Fort Saint George is not an Order, nor have we a Right to write to them on such a Subject with the Style of Command; that by declining to send them an immediate Supply of Money, we have not precluded them from every Hope of such Assistance; and that when our own Means and Exigencies will admit, and their Occasions require it, I shall readily agree to relieve them.

I am sorry Mr. Francis should suppose me so inattentive to the Service which I have recommended, as not to have considered whether the Season of the Year would admit of its Execution. I have in a former Minute declared, that I regarded the rainy Season as favourable to the Expedition conducted by Colonel Leslie : In the Carnatic it does not commence till the Month of November.

(Signed) Warren Hastings.

The above Addition having been agreed to by a Majority of the Board, and added to the Letter to Fort Saint George, it was signed and dispatched.

The Secretary lays before the Board the following Letter, which he received from Mr. Francis in Reply to his Notification of the Governor General's Offer of assembling a Council to take into further Consideration the Letter to Fort Saint George :

To J. P. Auriol, Esquire, &c.

Sir,

Having already delivered my Opinion on the proposed Letter to Fort Saint George, and on the Addition since made to it by the Governor General, and having no new Matter before me, I have now no Ground for making it my particular Desire that a Council should be summoned for re-considering the Subject. I beg you will return my most respectful Thanks to the Governor for the Offset contained in your Letter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) P. Francis.

19th May 1778.

Nº 49.

The Governor General—As Mr. Francis, in his Minute of the 19th May, has objected to our refusal of a Sum of Money to the Presidency of Fort Saint George as being too peremptory and unqualified, and as nothing was further from my Intention, nor from the plain Construction of the Letter itself, I should be very glad if the Opinions of the Board and this Point may be brought to one Point of Argument. Part of the Words of our Letter which have been constructed too peremptory and unqualified is as follows: " We consider the Aid of the Company's Resources, where- soever they may exist, as due to the Exigencies of all their Settlements. On this Principle we shall always be ready to contribute every Means in our Power to the Relief of your's, whenever they shall indispensably require it, and we can afford it, without subjecting the Interests of our common Employers to a greater Inconvenience in one Place than that which we should attempt to avert in another." This Passage, and the whole Tenor of the rest, mark the Intention of this Board to supply the Presidency of Fort Saint George with Money whenever their Exigencies shall require it and we can afford it, but decline an immediate Supply: For this I will state such Reasons to the Board as I hope will convince them of the Propriety of this Answer. By the State of our Two Treasuries of Yesterday's Date, now lying before the Board, it appears that the Amount of both was Rupees Seventy-two Lacks Seventeen thousand One hundred and Eighty-three : —————— 72,17,183. From this Sum the

following must be deducted:

| | | | | |
|---|---|----------|-------|-----------|
| Deposits | — | — | — | 12,39,658 |
| Remains in the Mint uncoined | — | — | — | 12,22,914 |
| Deposit in the new Fort | — | — | — | 35,96,000 |
| Remaining unpaid of the Advances ordered to the Board of Trade | } | 8,00,000 | ————— | 68,58,572 |
| | | | | |

3,58,611. From this Account it appears that we cannot at this Time command a larger Sum than Three and a Half Lacks of Rupees, were we disposed to comply with the Application from the Presidency of Fort St. George, unless we were to break in upon the Fund which we have appropriated for our own

A P P E N D I X, N^o 48 and 49.

own extraordinary Occasions. Add to this Consideration the present Season of the Year in which the Collections are entirely at a Stand, and it will appear that we shall meet with some Difficulty in defraying our own ordinary Expences; neither do the President and Council of Fort Saint George require a pecuniary Aid to relieve their actual Wants, but only to serve as a Fund to answer the Exigencies of a War. To me it appears that such a Fund will be as safe and as effectual in our Hands as in theirs, but if it shall be the Opinion of the Board that at this Time there is a Probability that the Presidency of Fort Saint George may be pressed for Means beyond their ordinary Resources, I shall very readily join in appropriating a Sum for that Purpose, and in fixing a Period for advancing it either by Bills, or if these cannot be obtained, by Remittances in Specie; in the mean Time I recommend to the Consideration of the Board the Advice offered to that Presidency in our Letter of the 7th April 1777, as it points out the natural and reasonable Means of enlarging their own Resources, without unnecessarily exhausting the Currency of this Country, and I desire that it may be entered after this Minute. I shall here leave the Subject thus at large, either to be determined at this Meeting of the Board; or, as it appears to me of too much Importance for so precipitate a Decision, to be more deliberately considered, and the Opinions of the Board taken upon it in the Interval between our Meetings.

" It appears from the general Tenor as well as the particular Passages of the Nabob's Letters, that " he is greatly indebted to British Subjects in the Service of the Company, or residing at Madras under their Protection. We have strong Grounds to conclude that he may have granted to them Creditors, Tuncaws or Assignments of the Revenues of the Carnatic, in the same Manner as he had formerly mortgaged to them the Collections of Tanjore. We cannot avoid expressing our Disapprobation of this Act, if it has really taken place, because it must evidently tend to lessen the Power of the Carnatic, by depriving it of its Resources, and thereby expose it to the Danger of foreign Invasion. In this Case therefore we recommend to you, to require in Form of the Nabob, that he resume all such Grants; that he deliver to you an Account of his Debts contracted with the Subjects of Great Britain, and suspend the Liquidation of them until he shall have fully discharged those due to the Company, or until you may be furnished with Instructions from the Court of Directors respecting the Demands of his private Creditors, as it is possible that such Instructions may speedily be received in Answer to the Reference which you made to them on this Subject in the Course of the last Year."

Mr. Francis—The Letter to Fort Saint George upon the Whole amounts to a positive Refusal of their Request; the following Expression appeared to me too harsh and peremptory, " To these Considerations we must add, that we shall not think ourselves warranted, even under the most pressing Situation of your Affairs, to offer our Relief, if it shall appear to us that you have the Means of it left in your own Hands unapplied." Either the Means herein alluded to could never be in their own Hands, or their Affairs could not be in the most pressing Situation.

When the Draft of the Letter was sent round, the State of our Treasury now presented to the Board was not before me, nor is it mentioned or alluded to among the Reasons assigned for not granting the Supply requested of us; if it had I should have thought it unanswerable, because as I deem the Preservation and Security of Bengal of all others the most important Object of Consideration to the Company, I should never have approved of supplying the Wants of the other Presidencies out of the Treasury of this Government, already so nearly exhausted; on the same Principle I should have endeavoured to discourage every Enterprize likely to be attended with extraordinary Expences, particularly the present Expedition to Poona. I consider the Money in the new Fort as a Resource against a possible Invasion of these Provinces, and not to be employed for any other Service but their immediate Defence; deducting this Sum, and the others already appropriated from the Balance in our Treasury, it appears that we are going to maintain a War on the other Side of India, or Military Operations at least in Point of Expence equivalent to a War, with an unappropriated Surplus in our Treasury of Three Lacks and a Half, and which from the Seaton of the Year we are so little likely to increase, that we shall meet with some Difficulty in our ordinary Expences. In this Situation of our Affairs I certainly shall not be for sending Supplies of Money either to Madras or Bombay, and I would assign the true Reasons of our Conduct to those Presidencies.

Governor General—The State of our Two principal Treasuries is presented to the Board every Monday Morning, and a daily Report I understand to be constantly made to every Member of the Board: It was to these Treasuries only that my Minute alludes, as it is from these only that Remittances could be made to the other Presidencies; but Mr. Francis has carried his Conclusions far beyond mine, and greatly misunderstood me if he supposes that I mean to represent the Company's Resources as exhausted. The State of our Treasuries at the Presidency has ever been at its lowest Ebb in the Three first Months of the Year; but this does not prove that our Resources are exhausted; a fair State of the Company's Resources can only be seen in the collective Sum of all their Treasuries, and the Estimate of their growing Resources and Disbursements. The Cash in the principal Treasuries may be diminished by Means which proportionably augment that of the Provincial, as is actually the Case in the Twelve Lacks of Rupees lately ordered to be granted to the Board of Trade at the Presidency, in Exchange of the provincial Assignments formerly made to them. The general State of the Company's Treasuries will make a Number in the Packet; and compared with that sent Home the last Year near the same Period of Time, will better shew than any Argument, the Ability of this Government to support all its Expences, whether external or internal.

A P P E N D I X, N° 48 and 49. N° 50 and 51.

Mr. Barwell—When I approved the Draft of the Letter to Fort Saint George, I did not decline to supply required by the Gentlemen of Fort Saint George from any Idea of the Inability of Government to give it, but because I did not know, and do not at this present Moment know, what Circumstances the extraordinary Demand we have from that Presidency was made; their forces were the same the preceding Year, and the Year preceding that, and proved a sufficient sum for defraying the Expences of their Government. I know of no extraordinary Charges to which the Presidency of Fort Saint George has been subjected during this present Year, nor do the Resident and Council state any Deficiency in their ordinary Funds; I therefore cannot suppose there is any very pressing Call, or that there can be any real Necessity for impoverishing the Bengal Treasury to supply that of Madras; besides, at this Season of the Year, we have not the Means of transporting Bullion to the Coast.

Mr. Wheler—I consider the Request of the Governor and Council of Fort Saint George, of a Supply of Money from this Settlement, rather to arise from the Apprehension of some sudden Emergency requiring an Increase of their Expences, which their Treasury was in no Degree prepared to answer, than from any Augmentation of their Establishment: Under these Circumstances I judged it reasonable to comply with their Request, not being furnished at that Time with an exact State of our own Treasury, which I am now well convinced will not admit of. In a mercantile Settlement, many Reasons may be assigned in favour of an annual Supply to that Presidency; the only one I shall offer to the Board at present is, that every Cargo from Fort Saint George to Europe, sold by the Company, nearly doubles its original Cost and Charges, while those from this Settlement, which we are increasing daily in most of the Articles which are supposed to render them saleable, upon an Average rise upwards of 30 per Cent.

We are, &c.

Warren Hastings,
Richard Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

Port William,
1st May 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 50 and 51.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 21st May 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Rich^d Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edw^d Wheler, } Esquires.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
By your Commands of the 9th March you are pleased to direct me to reserve in my Hands the Sum of Ten Lacks of Rupees, for the Pay and Expence of the Detachment ordered to be in Readiness to march to Bombay, and to wait your further Orders for transmitting the same to the Detachment. In consequence of these Instructions, I immediately prepared that Sum, converting much of it as I possibly could into Gold Specie, and packed it up in Readiness to be forwarded on the shortest Intimation from the Honourable Board: But not receiving such Intimation, and learning from Colonel Leslie that his final Instructions and Orders of March had been transmitted to him, I conclude that some Accident must have befallen the Orders which the Honourable Board gave me on this Head, or that they may not have adverted to the Injunction they gave me to wait for further Commands. I have therefore, in Compliance with the most pressing Requisitions of Colonel Leslie, taken upon me to forward to him the Sum of Twelve Lacks of Rupees (upwards of Three Lacks and Thirty thousand whereof are in Gold Mohurs) which the Honourable Board will perceive from a Copy of the Colonel's Estimate herewith enclosed, was deemed necessary for the Service.

The Charge of the Nabob's Rassaulah was necessarily included in Colonel Leslie's Estimate, as the State of his Excellency's Finances and Resources rendered it impossible for me to have attained immediately the requisite Advance from any other Funds than those I am at present in Possession of. I hope however in the Course of the Year, to re-claim a considerable Part of this Sum, which for present I have been obliged to the Vizier's Debt with the Honourable Company, from the Funds originally assigned for the Maintenance of Abdul-nahman Cawn's Rassaulah.

For the further Information of the Honourable Board, I beg Leave to submit to their Perusal

A P P E N D I X, N° 50 and 51.

Copies of Colonel Leslie's Letters to me, regarding the Dispatch of the Treasure for the Use of Detachment; which, I trust, will justify my Compliance with his Requisition, though not conformable to the Orders I had received.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
8th May 1778.

(Signed) N. Middleton,
Resident at the Vizier's Court

Copies of Letters from Colonel Leslie to the Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Sir,

As I have received the final Orders of the Honourable the Governor General and Council to proceed on my March to Bombay, with all possible Dispatch; and by what I learn from Mr. Chandler you have not yet received the Board's Orders to remit me the Treasure destined for the Service.

The Paymaster of this Detachment (Mr. Cator) is not yet arrived, as he has been delayed by Sicknes, and I think it is probable has Orders to receive the Treasure from you, but has neglected in his Indisposition to transmit the Order to you or to me; upon this Supposition I have sent an Express to him, to desire, if he has such an Order, to transmit it to me immediately; and as I have not any Money to defray the Expence of the current Service, I am to request that you will please to remit me, as soon as possible, some Lacks of Rupees, or send me Credit for such Sums as I may want for the current Service, lest it should suffer by Delay for the Want of it, which I shall be myself accountable to you for, till such Time as you may receive the necessary Orders from the Board, immediately from themselves, or through Mr. Cator.

I have advised the Government with this Circumstance of Delay, and of my having made a Requisition to you, lest the Service should suffer before their Orders can arrive.

Camp, near Corah,
28th April 1778.

I am, &c.

(Signed) M^w Leslie.

Sir,

I have been favoured with your Letter of the 24th Instant on the Morning of the 27th, previous to which, on the Night of the 25th, Mr. Chandler arrived here, as did Almats Ally Cawn on the Morning of the 26th.

I am extremely obliged to you for your Attention in sending Mr. Chandler to this Place, in order to see that the Vizier's Injunctions and your own are duly executed by Almats Ally Cawn, which I hope the Service will be furthered, and all Obstacles removed that have hitherto retarded it; and I hope, by this Interposition, that the Supplies I have demanded, which are very trifling to the Abilities of the Country, will be speedily and effectually supplied, in order that I may be ready for my March without Loss of Time.

I must refer you to Mr. Chandler for the Progress we have made with Almats for your further Information.

In my Letter of Yesterday I informed you of the Circumstances of the Delay in the Supply of the Treasure. I now enclose you an Estimate of what I think will be wanting for the current Expenses of One Month, which, you will observe, amounts to One Lack Seventy thousand Rupees; therefore I do suppose that not less than Thirty thousand will be necessary for Contingencies, or that Two Lacks will be barely sufficient, exclusive of the First Expence of Supply; as the Government have thought that Six Months ought to be provided, Twelve Lacks will be necessary, which I hope will be sent to me as soon as possible.

Camp, near Corah,
29th April 1778.

I am, &c.

(Signed) Math^w Leslie.

Sir,

The Paymaster of my Detachment (Mr. Cator) being arrived, and having no other Orders than to join me, I presume the Governor General and Council thought my Order for your sending a Sum of Money destined for the Expence of my Expedition, sufficient for your doing so; and as they have put the Paymaster entirely under my Control alone, I suppose it was not consistent that my Order should be sent to him to receive it, or in the Hurry of Business the necessary Orders for your sending it have been forgot; let this be how it will, the Service must suffer if the Treasure is not sent immediately. I therefore must repeat my Request to you, that a Sum, amounting to Twelve Lacks of Sicca Rupees be sent me with all Expedition, for which I will grant my Receipts, and become accountable to you.

Camp, near Corah,
30th April 1778.

I am, &c.

(Signed) M. Leslie.

True Copys,

(Signed) N. Middleton.

A P P E N D I X, N° 50 and 51.

Estimate of Charges of the Detachment under the Command of Colonel Leslie, per Month.

| | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|--------------|----------|
| Company of Artillery, including Field Officers, Quarter-master, and Adjutant, &c. | — | — | — | — | — | 12,000 |
| Regiments of Cavalry | — | — | — | — | — | 34,000 |
| Quarter-master Adjutant D° | — | — | — | — | — | 2,000 |
| | | | | | — | 36,000 |
| Battalions of Infantry | — | — | — | — | — | 78,000 |
| Quarter-master Adjutant D° | — | — | — | — | — | 3,500 |
| | | | | | — | 81,500 |
| Quarter-master General's Establishment, &c. | — | — | — | — | — | 3,000 |
| Field Engineer's D° | — | — | — | — | — | 4,500 |
| General, Staff, &c. 1 Colonel, 2 Lieutenant Colonels, 2 Majors, Major of Brigade, } Interpreter, Aid de Camps, Secretary, Surveyors, Pay-master, Commissary, &c. } Contingencies to Artillery, Cavalry and Infantry, allowed | — | — | — | — | — | 25,000 |
| | | | | | — | 8,000 |
| | | | | | Sonat Rupees | 1,70,000 |

For extraordinary Supplies and Contingencies.

A true Copy.

(Signed) N. Middleton,
Resid^d at the Vizier's Court.

N° 51.

Resolved, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Middleton :

Sir,

We have received your Letters of the 30th ultimo, and 1st, 6th, and 8th instant. Instead of complying with the Assurances which have been made by Mr. D. Barwell to Fyzala Cawn, think it will answer the same Purpose to address a Letter to him, confirming the Obligation of Government to abide by the Guarantee of the Treaty concluded by the Vizier with him, which have engaged in by our Authority, and the Governor General will write to him accordingly. We authorize you to receive the Amount of the Obligation which Fyzala Cawn has delivered to Mr. Barwell for One Lack of Rupees, as a complimentary Mark of his Respect and Attention to the company for the Part they have taken in his Concerns.

We think it proper to express our Approbation of the Conduct of Mr. Daniel Barwell in the transaction of the Business on which you have deputed him to Fyzala Cawn, and we direct that he prepare and transmit to us through you an Account of the Expences which he has incurred by this expedition.

Having considered the earnest Requisition of Colonel Leslie for Twelve Lacks of Rupees, with Estimate which he transmitted you of the Monthly Disbursements of his Detachment, we consent to his retaining the additional Two Lacks with which you have supplied him, as we are convinced that the Extraordinary Charge of the Cavalry, which was not provided for in the First Estimate of the Expence, will require that Sum to defray it; but we must nevertheless signify our Disapprobation of your having taken upon yourself to exceed our original Orders on this Subject without previously applying for our Permission. Directions were transmitted you, under Date the instant, for dispatching the Treasure which we had ordered you to prepare, to Colonel Leslie; you acted properly in forwarding it before the Receipt of those Orders, as the Exigency of the Service required it, and you were acquainted with the Use for which it was intended.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
21st May 1778.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X, N° 52.

Extract of Bengal Military Consultations, the 27th March 1778.

READ a Letter from Colonel Leslie, dated 14th March 1778.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General and Council.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been favoured with your Resolutions of the 23d ultimo, through the Commander in Chief, and I cheerfully embrace the Honour you conferred upon me, in the Command of so considerable Part of the Honourable Company's Troops; and the Confidence and Reliance you have placed in me demands my utmost Gratitude: I am very sensible of this Mark of your Favour, which it will be my Duty to deserve.

I shall proceed with all Diligence to collect together the Equipment of this Expedition, and hope with the Power you have intrusted me, to be able to proceed upon it in due Time, and that it may answer the Purpose you intend. I beg Leave to suggest to you that it will be absolutely necessary it be attended with a Corps of Cavalry, in order to escort my Stores and Supplies, and preserve my Baggage and Bazaars from Insult, and the frequent Alarms that are given on Marches of this Kind by a straggling Cavalry Enemy, as well as to preserve my Communication and Correspondence. I am therefore to request you will permit me to take the First Regiment of Cavalry (now here) with me on this Service, which I flatter myself you will approve. I have ordered it in Readiness and to proceed with me to Calpee, where I hope to receive your Approbation.

The Artillery you have appointed to this Command is very respectable, and I do not apprehend the Golundaze Company from this Brigade sufficient to conduct it probably. You are pleased to add Four Officers from the First Company to join it, and I must request you will add Twenty-five or Thirty European Artillery Men, with some Sergeants, and One hundred Lascars from the First Company, that this Artillery and the Magazines may be properly conducted; and if you please to indulge me with a Company of Fifty Men from the First Regiment, as a Guard to the Whole, it will give a necessary Respect, and I hope you will see the Necessity of this, and concur in my Request.

As you have not been pleased to take Notice of any attendant Staff, I presume you will have no Objection to my taking my present with me, which I request your Concurrence in. And as this Service will require every Aid, I must request the Favour you will please to order Lieutenant Frith, the present Brigade Major of the temporary Brigade, to join this Detachment as Brigade Major, which it must necessarily have, and that another Officer be ordered to do his Duty here till his Return; I shall take the Liberty to take him along with me to Korah, where I hope to receive your Approbation.

I presume you will think a Commissary of Musters necessary to ascertain every Thing you are pleased to require: A Judge Advocate also you may think requisite; and I must request your Power for assembling general Courts Martial on Europeans, and to qualify any Person to act as Judge Advocate; I request also you will please to appoint some additional Surgeons, which are absolutely necessary for us. I must endeavour to procure what Medicines I can from the First Brigade.

I must request also your Instructions and Orders relative to the necessary Supply of Money, and you will gratify me by putting it under the Direction of Mr. Leslie (my present Secretary) as Paymaster, and I will become answerable for him. I have taken the necessary Steps for procuring the Draft and Carriage Cattle that may be wanted, by sending to Korah, Calpee, and Bundecund, to provide them, as also to secure my Supplies of Provisions, which I have no Doubt I shall be able to effect, but wish your Request to the Rajah of Bundecund to give all the Assistance in his Power. There being no Carriage Cattle here attached to the Golundazes, I have requested Lieutenant Colonel Wilding to procure what Number may be wanted at Allahabad, to be sent to Suragepore; and that nothing may be wanting on my Part, I propose setting out this Night for Lucknow, to settle with Mr. Middleton what may be wanting on his Part or the Vizier's, and to comply with your Instructions relative to the Arsenal there, which I shall report to you.

The Vizier not having a Twelve Pounder fit for the Service we are going upon, I have wrote to Lieutenant Colonel Upton to dispatch with all Expedition Two Twelve Pounders from Chunar, and if Cattle can be provided I hope they will be brought up by Captain M^r Plerson.

I shall hope for your general Instructions to proceed; and have the Honour to be, with the highest Respect,

Camp, Futty Gurr,
14th March 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
Matt^r Leslie.

Governor General—It is with much Reluctance that we consent to any further Drafts from our Troops stationed in the Nabob Vizier's Dominions; but if you shall judge it indispensably necessary

A P P E N D I X, N° 52. N° 53, 54, and 55.

To join the 1st Regiment of Cavalry, or any Part of it, to your Detachment, we authorize you to do it, but we rather recommend that you apply to the Nabob for a Party of his Cavalry to attend you on this Service.

We cannot consent to your Request that 25 Artillery Men and a Company of Europeans be added to your Detachment, though we are convinced that they would prove an Addition of great Strength to it. We consent to your taking Lieutenant Frith as your Brigade Major.

The other Requisitions contained in your Letter have been already answered by our Public Orders, ready issued.

Mr. Francis—I think, that before we consent to the detaching of a Regiment of Cavalry in Addition to the Troops already ordered to this Service, we ought to be furnished with the Commander-in-Chief's Opinion, whether such Detachment of Cavalry can be spared with Safety from the Defence of the great Line of Frontier which we have now to defend?

Governor General—I believe I already know General Stibbert's Opinion: It was in Deference to that no Mention was made of Cavalry in the first proposed Arrangement; but as Colonel Leslie will be responsible for the Execution of the Service, and as the preferable Object in my Opinion is the Interest of the Enterprize, not the Defence of the Nabob's Dominions, which will be eventually better defended by it than a much larger Force acting at Home, I am of Opinion, that the discretionary Power which I have proposed in the above Draft of the Letter to be written to him in reply to his, should be given to him. I have too great a Respect for General Stibbert, to ask his advice on a Point on which I myself formed a determined Opinion.

Mr. Wheler—I agree to the Draft of the Letter to Colonel Leslie, relying upon the Foresight and Attention of the Governor General to the Safety and Security of the Frontiers.

Mr. Barwell agrees to the Draft.

Resolved, That a Letter be accordingly written to Colonel Leslie.

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54, and 55.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 8th June 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President.

Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

READ the following Letter from Colonel Leslie:

Gentlemen,

Although I have been arrived in this Neighbourhood some Days, I have delayed writing to you until I should have crossed the First Division of my Detachment over the Jumma. Pursuant to your Directions every Means in my Power were used to reconcile the Chiefs holding the Districts between Culpee and Bundelcund to my March, and I received Assurances of their illingness and ready Assistance of Provisions. They also sent a Vackel to me for my Orders, and to receive my Declarations of Peace and Protection to the Inhabitants on my March; but Kellidar of the Fort waved acquiescing to my Application for the Aid of his Boats, and indicated in all his Actions the Hostility of his Intentions.

Many Attempts and Threats were used to intimidate my Workmen at the Boats I had been able to collect, and at the Instant their Vackel was in my Camp, they commenced direct Acts of Hostility, and absolutely fired at my People employed at the Boats, which was retorted on them by the Guard placed for their Protection. In the Afternoon they returned to the same Attempts, and two 6 Pounders that had been ordered there to cover the landing of the Troops. This obliged the Boats entirely secured them from the Effects of their Shot.

I had told the Vackel my Intention of crossing as Yesterday, but he was very solicitous for my staying another Day, and expressed his Master's Wish that I would cross the River at 16 Coss higher up. I could not accede to either. The First was incompatible with the Declaration I had made, having already delayed my Passage of the River, with the Expectation of seeing the Vackel, who confirmed to me the Promises I had received from the Chiefs Ballajee and Gungadur, and the latter was leading me far out of my Way, and therefore not to be complied with.

RE. VI.

S f

I explained

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54, and 55.

I explained these Objections to the Vaceel, and repeated my Professions of Amity and Protection to the Country. And he left me on the Pledge of Peace to give the requisite Injunctions to the Kellidars Troops, and to send the Boats, seemingly satisfied, and promised to return to me in the Evening. This he did not perform, and the declared Hostility the Marattas had shewn at the Gaur, gave me Reason to expect some Opposition. Yesterday Morning at Day-break the Troops reached the Gaur, consisting of Three Battalions and their Guns. And on the First Embarkation being formed on the opposite Beach, the Troops that had been collected at Culpee began to assemble. Colonel Goddard immediately dispatched a Messenger to their Chief, with a Desire to pass unmolested; and was desired to come on. However, before One Battalion was quite formed, their Horsemen began a distant Fire with their Matchlocks, and finding no immediate Resistance, their Insolence was so great as to draw very near the Troops in single Men to molest them, by which Means Two Sepoys were slightly wounded. The Security of the People then required a Resistance, and the Two Guns placed for covering the Landing, with a small Battery I had posted for the Support of the Troops, in possessing themselves of the Post they were to occupy, discharged a few Shot amongst them which did Execution.

The Detachment marched from the Beach, and met with no Opposition, the Maratta Troops retreating before them the whole Way to the Village, from whence they wheeled off through some rugged Ground to a Plain about a Mile inland from the Fort. Colonel Goddard had detached Major Fullarton, with Four Grenadier Companies, to his Left, to prevent any Surprise in the Rear of his Detachment from the high Grounds, with Directions for their joining at the Village, but the Road being much interlaced through the deep broken Ground, he was led near a Mile from the Extremity of the Village, almost intercepting the Retreat of the Troops from the Fort; at this Time the Parties that had gone off with their Baggage and Effects to a Post about Three Cofs on the Jellalpoor Road, were returning in Search of Plunder, and to aid in harrassing our Troops, collected here to the Number of about 1,200 Men, they attacked the Grenadiers with some Sutrenalls and Rockets, and pressed them so hard, that the 4th Battalion, with Two Guns, immediately marched from the Village to their Relief; and the 7th Battalion was ordered to follow. On the Junction of the 4th Battalion, a few Rounds decided the Contest, and the Enemy retreated to Etowrah, the Place where they had carried their Effects. It was too far in the Day, and the Troops too much harrassed by being a long Time under Arms, to think of pursuing them, and the Detachment returned to the Bank of the River, taking up their Post between the Village and the Fort. The Fort they found evacuated; Colonel Goddard therefore possessed it immediately. In this Attack a few Grenadiers were wounded, but none dangerously.

I have been thus particular to point out to you, Gentlemen, that the Steps I have pursued, and the Endeavours I used to obtain the Acquiescence of the Chiefs Ballajee and Gungadur, were consonant to your Orders, and such as will obtain your Approbation; and that the jealous Disaffection of the Maratta Chiefs alone has produced this first Hostility. I do also assure you, that I will yet strive to secure their peaceable Admission of my March. The Fort of Culpee is an excellent Hostage; this, together with the Knowledge they now have that your Troops will not patiently bear an Insult, may effect their ready Acquiescence.

Another Vaceel from Ballajee is with me, who denies that the Opposition has been made by Authority, and solicits Friendship from me: On proper Pledges I will grant it; but the Deceit they have already used, will not admit of my placing too much Confidence in their Professions.

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that the Officers and Troops behaved with the greatest Alacrity, at the same Time they observed the strictest Discipline and Regularity.

Camp near Culpee,
May 20th, 1778.

I have, &c.
(Signed) Matt^w Leslie.

N° 54.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Draft of an Answer to the above Letter, for their Approbation:

We have received your Letter, dated the 20th ultimo.

It affords us great Satisfaction, and adds to the Confidence which we before reposed in your Conduct, to observe the Attention which you have shewn to our Instruction in your Endeavours to conciliate the Maratta Chiefs to the March of your Detachment, and in your Forbearance to re-treat their Hostilities until the Safety of your Party made it necessary to repel them.

We do not regret the Opposition which you have met with, since it has afforded you an Occasion of proving the Sincerity of our Professions, and the Marattas to be the Aggressors in this early Act of Hostility; at the same Time that the ill Success which attended it cannot have failed to make an Impression which we hope will discourage them in their future Attacks, for such we ought to expect, nor can we doubt that this was made by Authority, though disavowed by their Principals. We have less Apprehension of their open Hostilities than of their Treachery, and therefore although

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54, and 55.

ough you inform us that you shall not place too much Confidence in their Professions; yet think it necessary to repeat the Caution, and to recommend that you do not suffer yourself by Appearances to relax from it.

We desire that you will advise Mr. Mostyn, the Company's Resident on the Part of the Government of Bombay at Poona, of your Proceedings, and of all such Occurrences as may require his Planation of them to the Government at Poona, or the Interposition of its Authority to prevent like Attempts in others to interrupt the Course of your March.

We are, &c.

Mr. Francis—The Opposition made by the Marattas to Colonel Leslie's Passage over the Jumma, to me, I confess, an unexpected Event. I understood that great Reliance had been placed on the solemn Promises given us by the Maratta Chiefs of their pacific Disposition, and of their Resolution only to permit the Detachment to march quietly through their Country, but even to give them every possible Assistance: At any rate I did not expect that they would have discovered a hostile Intention to us until the Detachment was engaged further in their Country. As we at present know what we have to trust to, and as it seems to be agreed that we ought to expect that they will do every thing in their Power to interrupt the March of the Army, it is my Opinion that we ought not to attempt to proceed any further, at least until the Rains are over. I think that we hazard the Safety of the Army, on which perhaps the Safety of Bengal and of the whole British Empire in India may depend, by attempting to force a Passage from one Side of India to the other at this unfavourable season of the Year, and in the Face of an Enemy determined to oppose it. The Marattas have it in their Power to distress, harass, and perhaps ruin any Army that enters into their Country in these circumstances, without ever coming to an Engagement. I wish the Opinion of Military Men to be given, whether it be probable that Colonel Leslie's Army under these Difficulties can make good Passage from Calpee to Bombay, or how it is possible for them to ensure the necessary Supplies forage and Provisions during so long a March in the Rains, if the Marattas are determined to do every thing they can to distress him? On these Principles I cannot approve of the proposed Letter, except that Part of it which recommends extraordinary Caution; which undoubtedly ought to be observed if the Expedition is to be continued.

Mr. Wheler—I agree with Mr. Francis, particularly in that Part of his Minute which recommends taking of Military Opinions upon the present State of the Army under the Command of Colonel Leslie.

Mr. Barwell approves of the Draft.

The Draft of the Letter to Colonel Leslie being approved; agreed, That it be written and dispatched accordingly.

Governor General—During a former Period, in which my Voice was excluded from an Influence in the Resolutions of the Board, I made it a Rule, from which I never deviated, to assist and support every Measure of the Council after it had received the Sanction of the concurrent Opinions of a Majority of its Members, although passed in Opposition to my Opinion. It was a Duty which I owed to the Service, nor has even the Change of Influence ever induced me to depart from it: But Assures which I deemed the most pernicious to the Service having been allowed to take their Effect, have supported them, and I do support them even to this Hour. I have a Right to complain of the arbitrary Conduct of Mr. Francis in particular, and of Mr. Wheler who has invariably joined with him, in vindicating every Measure of Government, originally undertaken against their Opinions, with unremitting opposition. This is I believe the Fifth Time, if not more, that Mr. Francis has urged the Recall of the Detachment, after having thrown upon me and Mr. Barwell the entire Responsibility of its appointment. I should not feel so sensibly as I do the Authority of Two Members of the Administration, which ought to be applied solely to the Promotion of the Company's Interests and the eventual Prosecution of the regular Acts of Government, thus employed to impede and counteract me, if their Objections were derived from a Studied Knowledge of the Subjects, how erroneous were the Conclusions from them might be: But it is my hard Lot to contend with either Misinformation or Misrepresentation; for I will venture to say, that there is not a Syllable of Mr. Francis's minute that is not built upon wrong Grounds of Fact. I will examine every Part of it in the Order in which it was dictated. The Minute begins with these Words: "The Opposition made by the Marattas to Colonel Leslie's Passage over the Jumma, is to me I confess an unexpected Event. I understood that great Reliance had been placed on the solemn Promises given us by the Maratta Chiefs of their pacific Disposition, and of their Resolution not only to permit the Detachment to march quietly through their Country, but even to give them every possible Assistance." No such declaration of the solemn Promises thus given by the Maratta Chiefs appears on any Part of our records, nor can I conceive why this Assertion is so pointedly made, unless it be to suggest the danger of a March of the Detachment through a Country united under One Government, and commanding all its Powers to destroy it from the Banks of the Jumma to Bombay. I can say for myself, that I never entertained the same Assurance of the pacific Disposition of the Chiefs of the Paishwa's immediate Jurisdiction.

I proceed with the Words of the Minute. "At any rate I did not expect that they would have discovered a hostile Intention to us until the Detachment was engaged further in their Country. As we at present know what we have to trust to, and as it seems to be agreed that we expect that they will do every thing in their Power to interrupt the March of the Army, it is my Opinion that

" we

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54, and 55.

" we ought not to attempt to proceed any further, at least not until the Rains are over. I think to
" we hazard the Safety of that Army, on which perhaps the Safety of Bengal and of the whole
" British Empire in India may depend, by attempting to force a Passage from one Side of India to
" the other at this unfavourable Season of the Year, and in the Face of an Enemy determined to
" oppose it. The Marattas have it in their Power to distress, harrahs, and perhaps ruin any Army
" that enters into their Country in these Circumstances, without ever coming to an Engagement.
I lament that such alarming Declarations cannot be confined to our Records; and I lament the dan-
gerous Consequences to which the Company's Interests must be exposed, both here and at Home, by
such a Denunciation pronounced by a Member of this Administration, and of universal Ruin to the
British Empire, from the Effects of a partial Measure, which was unfortunately undertaken without
his Concurrence. A very short Reply will be sufficient to dissipate such ill-grounded Apprehensions.
The Districts which depend on the Chiefs who have commenced the first Hostilities against the Detach-
ment, extend but to a short Distance from Calpee; Three or Four Days, or at most a Week,
will be sufficient for it to reach the Borders of Bundlecund, a Country neither subject to the Gov-
ernment of the Marattas, nor likely to be influenced by their Example; from Bundlecund the Route
will lie through the District of Bopaul, which is under the Government of a Patan Chief, acknowledg-
ing no other Submission to the Maratta State than the Payment of the Chout. I am not Master
of the exact Geography of this Country, but I can affirm that this District includes so narrow a
Space, that it is neither mentioned in our Maps, nor known at this Distance but to Persons who have
occasionally passed through it. The rest of the Way, to the Borders of Candeish, and of the Countries
which are contiguous to Poona, lies in the Dominions of Moodajee Boolla, who is at the
Time the most powerful of the Chiefs who bear the Maratta Name, who holds his Possessions in his
own Right, and independent of the Government of the Paishwa, even by the Confession of the
Members of that Administration: From him I have received the warmest Assurances of Assistance
and even Invitations, repeated to Colonel Leslie as well as to myself, for the March of the Detach-
ment into his Country. The Knowledge which I have acquired of his political Interests and Object
is a Warrant yet stronger for my Confidence in his Fidelity. If the Safety of our Detachment has
been thus far secured, I think there is little Danger from the Opposition it may meet with in the Re-
mainder of its Progress except the Events of a War, should a War be the Consequence, which the
Desire of the most guarded Precautions of human Prudence must ever be in some Degree fortuitous;
yet it is my Opinion, that this Undertaking is as little liable to adverse Consequences as any
Expedition that has ever yet been set on Foot by any one of the English Governments in India, and
I am willing to stake my Reputation on the Event of it. Twice is the rainy Season repeated in the
Minute as an Objection; the same Objection has been before Twice made by Mr. Francis, and very
fully answered. It is hard to exact from me repeated Answers to the same Objections, without an
Argument urged to support them: I shall content myself with appealing to my former Reply,
which is contained in my Minute of

To proceed in the Words of Mr. Francis's Minute, " I wish the Opinion of Military Men to be
taken, whether it be probable that Colonel Leslie's Army, under these Difficulties, can make
good its Passage from Culpee to Bombay, or how it is possible for them to ensure the necessary
Supplies of Forage and Provisions, during so long a March in the Rains, if the Marat-
tas are determined to do every Thing they can to distress him?" I do not desire to con-
sult Opinions on a Measure already determined; but to state the Question in the Terms proposed
would be to deceive those to whom it was put into false Opinions, the necessary Consequences &
false Premises. The Minute concludes in the following Words: " On these Principles I cannot
approve of the proposed Letter, except that Part of it which recommends extraordinary Caution,
which undoubtedly ought to be observed if the Expedition is to be continued." The Question
before the Board is, Whether a Letter shall be written to Colonel Leslie, consisting of Two dis-
tinct Points? The First is an Approbation of his past Conduct; the Second, a Caution to beware
of Treachery. The Reply given by Two of the Members, applies only to the last Point included in
the Question, with a total Silence on the First; while the Debates of the Board have been intro-
duced, and consumed the whole Time of the Morning, on a Subject totally foreign from both.

It may suit the System adopted, whatever that be, by the dissenting Members of this Council,
to continue the same Means which have been used to this Time, to defeat the Measures which have
been adopted against their Consent. I declare in this Place my unalterable Determination to pro-
secute it to the utmost of my Power to its Conclusion.

Mr. Francis—What Rules of Conduct Mr. Hastings may have prescribed to himself, in former
Times, is not a Question I am concerned in. My Conduct, I trust, will want no Apology, as
long as it is guided by my own Sense of what my Duty demands of me, though it should not
correspond with his Example. Neither do I know, nor do I mean to enquire, what those Measures
are, which, though taken by the late Majority in Opposition to his Opinion, and though of a Na-
ture the most pernicious to the Company's Service, he continues to support; but this I do know,
that all our Measures were approved of by the Company, and none of them so strongly as those
which received the greatest Opposition at this Board.

Admitting the Rule alluded to by the Governor to be a good one, I conceive it does not
strictly apply to the present Question. In proposing to stop the March of the Detachment, I do
not properly retard or embarrass the Execution of a Measure already resolved on, while all Cir-
cumstances continue the same. I propose a new Measure on the Ground of a new and unexpected
Event.

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54; and 55.

event. With respect to the constant Opposition which I am charged with having heretofore given to this Measure, I avow the Fact, and am glad to see it established by Testimony that cannot be disputed. In referring to the pacific Declarations of the Maratta Chiefs, I spoke from a strong Impression of my Memory, which I believe has not misled me. Moodajee Bhoosla repeatedly promises to furnish the Army with all Necessaries, and to conduct them with Security through his Territories. I did understand that Ballajee and Gungadur had given us Assurances to the same effect. Their Letters to Colonel Leslie are full of amicable Professions, which were continued to him by their Vackeels in his Camp, even to the Time when their Troops were attacking his advanced Parties. He now says, "that the jealous Disaffection of the Maratta Chiefs alone has produced this first Hostility." I for my own Part see no Reason why all those Chiefs should not act on the same Principles. Their general Interest I conceive must be to prevent a foreign force from penetrating into their Country, under any Pretences whatsoever. What the particular conduct of Moodajee Bhoosla may be is uncertain; the Proceedings of the other Chiefs give us no Cause to rely on his good Faith or pacific Intentions. I for myself place no Confidence in them. My Objection to the March of the Army, on account of the Rainy Season, does not now stand on the same Ground on which it was first urged; it was confined to that Consideration only, and is now united with that of a Military Opposition; either of these Difficulties singly might perhaps be surmounted. It now appears that we have both to contend with.

I have no Apprehension that my Opinions given at this Board will reach the Marattas, or will have any Effect upon the Operations in the Field. They are easy and obvious Conclusions from what is known to every Body. If I am singular in drawing such Conclusions, my Opinion, though it could be universally known, can produce no Effect. I confess that I did not attend to the Facility of approving Colonel Leslie's Conduct, which I should not have objected to: My Mind was engrossed with Objects of more Consequence. To the concluding Sentence of the Governor's Minute, I shall content myself with saying, that I neither have formed a System of personal Interest, nor am I able to devise one, which could be promoted or retarded by stopping the present Expedition; neither am I peremptory in saying, that I shall, at all Times and in all Circumstances, oppose it to the utmost of my Power, because a State of Facts may exist, to which I may be compelled by Necessity to accommodate my Conduct.

The Governor General—I will not lengthen a Debate, which originally arose from a Subject to which it does not regularly belong, and has run into others yet more foreign from it; but there is one Point which demands my Reply.

I have complained of the unfair Application which Mr. Francis has made of the general and equivocal Term "Maratta," which in the only Sense it will bear in his Inferences, means only that Part of the Maratta Government which acknowledges the Sovereignty and immediate Authority of the Paishwa and his Ministers; but the Facts from which these Inferences are deduced relate to a Variety of Powers and Interests, which are entirely separated from the Paishwa's Government, and which their original Dependence on it has even converted by a necessary Consequence into an Opposition to it.

The greatest Part, at least Two Thirds of the Line proposed for the March of the Detachment, belongs to Powers that acknowledge no Obedience to the Maratta State properly so called; that of Pendlebury does not bear even the Maratta Name; yet it will be impossible for any uninformed Person to read Mr. Francis's Minutes, even the latter, though dictated after he had been reminded of this essential Distinction, without concluding from them that the whole Country, lying between the present Station of the Detachment and its Termination at Bombay, was occupied by One Power, and that Power ready to act uniformly against the Detachment in every Stage of its Progress.

The Promises given by Moodajee Bhoosla will not warrant the Supposition with which Mr. Francis begins his First Minute, and on which he expresses his Disappointment, since this Chief, though confounded in the general Maratta Name, is not a Dependent of the Maratta Government; neither will the Assurances given by the Chiefs, Ballajee and Gunga Dur, justify Mr. Francis's Expectations of a pacific Conduct in the Maratta Chiefs, since their Names were never mentioned before, and they are now only mentioned to shew that neither their Conduct or Intentions were pacific.

Yet one Word more: It would lead me into a Discussion too pointed and too personal, were I to reply to the latter Part of the preceding Minute, in which Mr. Francis is pleased to say that he is not able to divine One System which could be promoted or retarded by stopping the present Expedition: To this I shall briefly answer, that the Disgrace of those who planned the present Expedition, the irreparable Loss of the Credit of this Government; and a perpetual Distrust in all its future Acts, exclusive of the Forfeiture of the Advantages for which it was originally concerted, would be the inevitable Consequence of stopping the present Expedition. It would ill become me to connect such Consequences with a supposed System of Party, how obvious soever the Transition may be, and however warranted by universal Practice, from the Defeat of those who have the Conduct of Affairs to the Triumph of their Opponents: A constant Series of Opposition may likewise produce the Effect of stamping on the Authors of public Measures the Opprobrium of every Failure of Success which may at any Time attend them, at the same Time that its public and popular Influence essentially tends to prevent their Success.

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54, and 55

N° 55.

The Governor General lays before the Board the following Draft of a Letter, which he proposes, with their Approbation, to write to the Paishwa and his Ministers; and he further proposes, that Copies of it, and of the Letter just received from Colonel Leslie, be transmitted to Mr. Mofly, that he be informed of the Directions given to Colonel Leslie, to advise him of his Proceedings, & of all Occurrences that may require his Explanation of them to the Poona Government, on his Application to that Government for the Interposition of its Authority to prevent any Impediment to the March of the Detachment; that he be also desired to correspond with Colonel Leslie, and to inform him of any Circumstances that he may deem it useful for him to be acquainted with.

I some Time ago informed you of my Design to dispatch a Body of Troops from hence to strengthen the Garrison of Bombay, and requested that in consideration of the Friendship and Treaty subsisting between you and the Company, which it was my Determination strictly to abide by, you would give Orders to all your Chiefs in the several Districts through which the March of the Troops lay, for their unmolested Passage, and to supply them with such Assistance as they should stand in need of. Notwithstanding which, I learn from Colonel Leslie the Commander of the Detachment, that being arrived on the Banks of the Jumna he halted, and wrote Letters to Ballajee and Gunga Dur, the Chiefs of the Districts lying between their River and Bundecund, under your Authority, assuring them of his pacific Intentions, and requesting Permission for the March of the Detachment through their Territory: In answer to which he received Assurances of Friendship and Assistance, which was confirmed to him by the Arrival of a Vackel on their Part; that he in consequence prepared to cross with his Army, but before the First Division were fairly embarked, a Party of Horse came down and fired on them, and on their Arrival on the opposite Bank they were opposed by a Body of 1200 Horse, with the Kelladar of Culpee at their Head. On this the Commander of the Division sent a Message to the Kelladar to desire he might pass unmolested; and receiving an Answer to come on, accordingly advanced, but was fired on at a Distance, which he in consequence of the Orders he had received, declined returning; emboldened by which the Horse advanced their Attack to near the Troops that several being wounded, it became necessary for their own Safety to make a vigorous Opposition, which was not effected without the Loss of many Lives before the Assailants were put to the Flight; and our Officers finding the Fort of Culpee evacuated, took Possession of it as a Pledge of their future good Behaviour. I am convinced that these Acts of Hostilities must have been employed without Authority from you or the Ministers of your Government, because of the Treaty which subsists between you and the Company. The Presidency of Bombay is situated at such a Distance from this, that any Reinforcement which is sent them must necessarily pass through a Variety of Districts subject to different Chiefs; and whatever Conduct might be expected from Strangers with whom the Company have no Connection, it could never be expected from you with whom they are on Terms of Friendship. Necessity required that the Troops should be sent, and they must either pass through Part of your Country, or not go at all: I was therefore remiss, but the most strict Injunctions were given to the Commander, to observe the most friendly Conduct and regular Discipline in his March, which I am satisfied he will literally comply with.

I do not mean to demand Satisfaction for what is past, as those of your People who were the Aggressors have received the Punishment due to their Temerity; but I am to request that you will without Delay issue such positive Injunctions to all the Officers of your Government as may effectually prevent any Thing of the like Nature in future.

(To Siccaram and Ballajee Pundit, of the same Tenor.)

The Board approving of the above Letters, agreed that the Governor General be requested to order them to be written in Persian, and that they be forwarded in the following Letter to Mr. Mofly:

Sir,

Colonel Leslie who commands the Detachment ordered to proceed to Bombay having met with Opposition in crossing the Jumna at Culpee, we enclose a Copy of his Letter to us on this Occasion, and of a Letter which has in consequence been written by the Governor General to the Paishwa, that you may be prepared to answer any Remonstrances that may be made to you by the Poona Government on that Subject.

We have directed Colonel Leslie to advise you of his Proceedings, and of all Occurrences that may either require your Explanation of them to the Maratta Government, or an Application for the Authority of that Government, to prevent his meeting with any further Impediment in the Course of his March through their Dominions: We also request that you will be regular in corresponding with Colonel Leslie, and that you will apprise him of any Circumstances which you may deem it useful for him to be informed of.

We are, &c.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

To

A P P E N D I X, N° 53, 54, and 55. N° 56 and 57

To the Peishwa: Written 9th June.

Some Time ago informed you of my Design to dispatch a Body of Troops from hence to strengthen the Garrison of Bombay; and requested, that in consideration of the Friendship and Treaty subsisting between you and the Company, which it was my Determination strictly to adhere to, you would give Orders to all your Chiefs in the several Districts through which the March of the Troops lay, to secure their unmolested Passage, and to supply them with such Assistance as they should stand in need of. Notwithstanding which, I learn from Colonel Leslie, the Commander of the Detachment, that when he arrived on the Banks of the Jumna, he halted, and wrote Letters to Balajee and Gunga Dur, the Chiefs of the Districts lying between that River and Bundelcund, under your Authority, assuring them of his pacific Intentions, and requesting Permission for the March of the Detachment through their Territory: In answer to which, he received Assurances of Friendship and Assistance, which were confirmed to him by the Arrival of a Vackel on their Part; that he in consequence prepared to march with his Army; but before the First Division were fairly embarked, a Party of Horse came down and fired on them, and on their Arrival on the opposite Bank they were opposed by a Body of 200 Horse, with the Kelladar of Calpee at their Head. On this the Commander of the Division sent a Message to the Kelladar to desire he might pass unmolested; and receiving an Answer to come on accordingly advanced, but was fired on at a Distance, which he, in consequence of the Orders he had received, declined returning; emboldened by which, the Horse advanced their Attack so near the Troops, that several being wounded, it became necessary for their own Safety to make a vigorous Opposition, which was not effected without the Loss of many Lives, before the Assailants were put to Flight; and our Officer finding the Fort of Calpee evacuated, took Possession of it, as a Pledge for their future good Behaviour. I am convinced that these Acts of Hostility must have been employed without Authority from you, or the Ministers of your Government, because of the Treaty which subsists between you and the Company. The Presidency of Bombay is situated at such a Distance from this, that any Reinforcement which is sent them must necessarily pass through a Variety of Districts, subject to different Chiefs; and whatever Conduct might be expected from Strangers, with whom the Company have no Connection, it could never be expected from you, with whom they are on Terms of Friendship. Necessity required that the Troops should be sent, and they must either pass through Part of your Country, or not go at all; I was therefore remediless; but the most strict Injunctions were given to the Commander, to observe the most friendly Conduct and regular Discipline in his March, which I am satisfied he will literally comply with.

I do not mean to demand Satisfaction for what is past, as those of your People who were the Aggressors have received the Punishment due to their Temerity; but I am to request that you will without Delay, issue such positive Injunctions to all the Officers of your Government, as may effectually prevent any Thing of the like Nature in future.

(To Siccaram and Ballajee Pundit, of the same Tenor and Date.)

A P P E N D I X, N° 56 and 57.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th June 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell, }
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler, }

RECEIVED the following Letter from Bombay.

Gentlemen,

We are still in the same State of Uncertainty as when we last had the Honour of addressing you on the 5th ultimo.

The new Durbar, after preserving a long and mysterious Silence with respect to their Intentions towards Ragoba, had a Meeting with Mr. Mostyn on the 10th, when they desired he would accompany a Deputy, they intended sending to Bombay with Proposals respecting Ragoba, but without making the least Discovery that could lead to any Knowledge what Share of the Government they admit him to, or whether they would admit him to any, which in fact is now optional with

have still continued to find Pretences for delaying the Dispatch of their Agent, and the ion of the former trifling Proposals committed to Mr. Mostyn, suggested to us to hold up to

A P P E N D I X, N° 56 and 57.

to him the Propriety of his not quitting Poona without some adequate Commission; but our Sentiments were conveyed to him in such a Manner, as to leave it to his Discretion to act in this Point as he might judge most good for the Service; and we have in a late Letter given him a still more explicit Permission.

The Assurance they have given of breaking off their Connections with the French, of which you have been advised by Mr. Mostyn, make us willing to hope that the First and grand Object of these Measures we have proposed to you may be accomplished by this Resolution; but as Monsieur St. Lubin is not yet dismissed from Poona, we shall not relax in our Vigilance, or suffer ourselves to be lulled into Security by Promises which are not confirmed by their Actions; however, still we can judge with more Certainty of their Disposition; the Opinion we have formed on the present Situation of Affairs, and of our Desire to save the Honourable Company from the heavy Expences, and their Troops from the Danger and Difficulties of a March from your Provinces to this Side of India, have led us to send an Order to the Officer in Command of the Forces you have been pleased to order to our Assistance, not to advance any further, until he may again hear from us.

It is proper you should be acquainted, that when we came to this Resolution, we had Expectations of a Reinforcement from Madras, which were indeed formed upon private Advices; but the Pat-tamers which brought these Letters, having been stopped near Poona, and their Packets opened, we concluded the public Advices from that Presidency had been intercepted, and gave the more Credit to the Private.

Also that Messrs. Draper and Stackhouse did not concur with us in this Resolution, which they were of Opinion was not warrantable by any Change in our Situation, either with respect to the Designs of the French, the Conduct of the Poona Government, or our own Military Resources.

Sir Edward Vernon, after leaving this Place, fell in with the French Ships the Brilliant and the Sartine, and immediately returned to the Northward, taking his Station off Choul, with a Resolution to prevent the French from landing any Troops there; he continued cruizing off that Port till the 18th, when the French Ships not making their Appearance, he proceeded to the other Coast.

We esteem it incumbent on us to send Sir Edward Vernon a Letter of Thanks for his Conduct on this Occasion, in which he displayed so pointed an Attention to the Interest and Welfare of the Honourable Company.

We have since learned that Monsieur Bellecombe himself remained at Mahé, and that the Brilliant proceeded to Mangalore, where several Artillery Officers, Two hundred Men, and a large Quantity of Military Stores, were landed for the Service of the Nabob Hyder Ally; and the Ship after Sir Edward Vernon was out of Sight to the Northward of her, returned to Mahé, to carry Monsieur Bellecombe back to Pondicherry. The Sartine is gone to Goa River, where she may probably remain during the Monsoon; and it is there said the French were deterred from proceeding to Choul by the Appearance of our Squadron, and supposing that War was declared, and perhaps by the News of the Revolution of Poona; but we have learned that the Captain, who was at Choul, has ordered her up thither (to Choul.)

We are, &c.

Bombay Castle,
2d May 1778.

(Signed)

William Hornby,
&c. Council.

N° 57.

Received the following Letter from Poona :

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I did myself the Honour of addressing you last under the 19th ultimo; on the 25th I received a Letter from the Honourable the Governor General, inclosing Three for the Durbar, and acquainting me with your Determination to send a Reinforcement of Troops to Bombay. As I apprehended the March of so large a Body of Forces through the Maratta Dominions might greatly alarm the Durbar, I thought it necessary to send Mr. Lewis to Camp, not only to prevent the Letters, but also to explain the Cause of our Apprehensions, from the Connection between Nana and Monsieur St. Lubin, and to apply for the necessary Passports for the free Passage of these Troops, and their being supplied with a friendly Buzar. He accordingly set out the 28th ultimo, and returned the 4th Instant, when he delivered me the Minutes of his Proceedings; to the enclosed Copy of which I beg Leave to refer you, from which your Honour, &c. may perceive, that no Dependance can be had on what the Durbar jointly, or the Ministers individually, say; for notwithstanding their so publicly dispatching me, of which they also advised the Presidency of Bombay, and Moraba's Assurances to Mr. Lewis, they have not to my Knowledge taken one Step towards completing that Business.

I cannot account for Moraba's evasive Behaviour respecting the Dustucks, in any other Manner than the Hopes he entertains of the Troops not marching until the Governor General shall have received the Durbar's Answers, agreeable to what he declared their Vackel had written, or that they will be recalled in consequence of the late Change in this Government; however to leave him as little

A P P E N D I X, N° 56 and 57. N° 58—63 and 64.

little room as possible for further Evasions, under the 5th Instant I wrote Moraba a Letter, demanding a decisive Answer, in Writing, and declaring him accountable for any ill Consequences which may happen from the Want of the Dustucks. But I am sorry to inform you, that notwithstanding this, and several Messages I have since sent him, I have not been able to procure an Answer. Notwithstanding Moraba's Assertions to Mr. Lewis, Monsieur St. Lubin has not yet been to Proondur, though it is said he is now sent for; but from the equivocating Conduct of the Durbar, both before and since Moraba has had the executive Authority, it is a Doubt with me whether they will dispatch him, or even if they do, whether he will leave Poona, as from the Lateness of the Seafon, he will have it in his Power to delay the Time till the Rains set in, when he will make the Plea of its being impossible for him to go any where.

In consequence of Hurry Punt's Retreat to Miretz, Hyder has lately taken Two small Forts, named Copallée and Behadurburrah, and was by the last Accounts attacking the Fort of Danvar, about Thirty Coss to the Southward, after the Reduction of which it is supposed he will attack the latter Place, particularly should the Reports of Hurry Punt's being on his March from thence to Proondur, by Orders from the Durbar, be true.

The enclosed Packet to your Address was received Yesterday, in Duplicate from the Presidency of Bombay. On the 9th I received a Letter from the Chief of Masulipatam, dated the 22d April, enclosing a Packet for Bombay, from your Honour, &c. which was forwarded immediately.

Poona,
12th May 1778.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. Mostyn.

A P P E N D I X, N° 58.—63 and 64.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 22d June 1778.

P R E S E N T,
The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

Mr. Lewis's Journal of his Deputation to the Maratta Camp.

ARRIVED at Morabah's Camp about Five o'Clock P. M. I immediately sent to inform Morabah thereof, requesting to know when I should wait on him. He promised to give me a Meeting at Night; but in the Evening sent me Word he could not see me until To-morrow.

On Account of some particular religious Ceremonies Morabah was engaged in, this being a Holiday, I had not an Opportunity of seeing him until Seven o'Clock P. M. I found there Chintoo Wittul and Gopal Naïque Tumbuckur. After delivering the Letters from the Governor General, agreeable to Mr. Mostyn's Orders, I explained their Contents, when Morabah asked me, whom we had to fear? I told him, that in consequence of the Governor General and Council being advised of the Treaty with Monsieur St. Lubin, they had Cause to imagine some evil Designs were intended against the Company's Settlements on the Western Side of India; he immediately answered, that there was no Treaty between this Government and that Gentleman: I replied, that I sincerely believed there was not; but that I was convinced there was one subsisting between Nanah and him, the Contents of which we had the greatest Reason to suppose were greatly to our Prejudice, and that it was in consequence of this Treaty that the Troops mentioned in the Governor General's Letters, were coming to the Assistance of Bombay, I therefore requested the necessary Dustucks for their freely passing through any Part of the Maratta Dominions they might have Occasion to come to, as well as their being properly supplied with a friendly Buzar. Morabah confessed a Knowledge of the Treaty between Nanah and Monsieur St. Lubin, but said, he could not give me an Answer with respect to the Dustucks I required, until after the Durbar met To-morrow: He then asked me how many Battalions were coming? I replied I could not tell the exact Number, but supposed about Three or Four. I then told him that the Governor and Council at Bombay had written to Mr. Mostyn, that they thought it very extraordinary the Durbar should not have explained themselves with respect to the Business they had requested he would accompany Tumbuckur to Bombay upon, and reminded him of the trifling Occasion they sent him upon in August last; I added that the Governor and Council would not approve of a Member of their Board being sent upon every trivial Errand, and therefore requested Morabah would inform me what the Durbar had to say to Mr. Mostyn, or if he did not

Wednesday
29th

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A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

chuse to explain himself to me, to let me know if he would order Tumbuckur to acquaint Mr. Mostyn with the Particulars before he set out? Morabah replied, that he would speak to me on this Businels before he dispatched me. I then told him that it would appear very extraordinary to the Governor and Council, after what had passed with Morabah on the 9th, and at Nanah's Tent on the 10th Instant, all which Mr. Mollyn had written to Bombay, that Tumbuckur had not yet set out; the Reason of which I requested he would inform me; to this Morabah made no Reply.

^{1778.}
_{/ the 10.} This Afternoon Morabah went to Sacaram Bapoo at Bury, where were also Nanah and Crustrow Belob; what passed between them I cannot learn, but a Hircarrah whom I sent there informs me, that Nanah on his going away said to Morabah, he might bring Dadah Saib to Poona, but he requested Morabah would take Care he did him no Harm. However I look on this as a mere Blind, as I am informed Morabah has told Tookajec Holkar that he does intend bringing Ragoba to Poona before Decera, and has requested Holkar would send for Anundy Bhoy and her Child immediately, and let the latter live with the young Peshwa in the Fort; to which Holkar replied, that he had nothing to say to Savoy Badjeeciw, (meaning Ragoba's Son,) but insisted on Dadah Saib's being brought directly. The public Reason given for the Meeting between Morabah and Sacaram, was the Beirad Rajah and Havaldar of the Matchy, coming down to pay their Compliments to Morabah; it is true they did come down, and the Hircarrah informs me that after Nanah returned to his Camp Morabah gave the Bell Bundah to the Rajah and Havaldar, and their People, in the Name of Ragoba, that they should not permit any one to go into either Fort without his Permission.

I am also informed that Ragooputrow, Narroo Sunker's Son, who is encamped with Holkar, has declared to him that unless he will force the Durbar to bring Ragobah immediately into Government, he will march into the Conkan with his Troops, amounting to about Four thousand Men.

_{arday, 2d.} This Afternoon Sacaram Bapoo paid a Visit to Tookajee Holkar, from whence he came to the Pageda, in the Tope of which Morabah is encamped, and about Four o'Clock set off on his Journey to Ninygam, a Village about Six Cols on this Side Settera, in order it is said to be married.

I have been informed from several Persons, that Morabah by the Advice of Bapoo, has now laid aside all Thoughts of bringing Ragoba into Government. Buchabah Preondur particularly, on the 29th ultimo, sent a Message acquainting me that Sacaram and Morabah had totally broken the Agreement made with him and Holkar, and were resolved that Ragoba should not come to Poona, but that he and Holkar was determined on bringing him, and wished much the English would assist them. And at a Visit I paid Buchabah this Evening, he said he could not give me a private Meeting on the Subject as he had Spies on him, but requested I would represent to Mr. Mostyn he had already sent me, and that whatever we might have to say on the Businels may pass through the Person who acts as my Linguist.

Not having heard any Thing from Morabah their Three Days, in the Evening I sent the Linguist desiring to know when he intended dispatching me, as Mr. Mostyn would be very desirous of sending the Durbar's Reply regarding the Dustlick to the Governor General; when Morabah said he would certainly send for and dispatch me before Ten o'Clock in the Morning.

_{Jay the 2d.} I sent again at Noon to Morabah to ask, when he would dispatch me? he replied, that as Mr. Mostyn had so often spoke to the Durbar with respect to dispatching Monsieur St. Lubin, they had sent for him in order to give him his Dispatches, after which they would dispatch Mr. Mostyn to Bombay. About 6 P. M. Morabah sent a Message, desiring my Attendance at the Durbar; I accordingly went, and found there Crustrow Belob, Chintoo Wittul, and Gopaul Naque Tumbucker. Morabah told me, that as the Letters from the Governor General mentioned the Troops he was sending to Bombay to be on account of the French being here, he had sent Monsieur St. Lubin in order to give him his Dispatches; and requested to know if in such Case we should still want the Dusticks I asked for at last Visit, or whether the Troops would be prevented proceeding? I answered, that according to the Governor General's Letter to Mr. Mostyn, the Troops would now have been near Twenty Days on their March, and that of course the Dusticks would be necessary to prevent any Disputes on the Road; to which he answered, that the Durbar's Vackel had written them, the Governor General had told him the Troops would not march until the Durbar's Answer were received. I replied, that this was contrary to what the Governor General had written to Mr. Mostyn, but that perhaps they might be stopped, should the News of the Change in Government, which Mr. Mostyn had dispatched the Day after it happened, reach Calcutta in Time; but as this was very uncertain, I repeated my Request for the Dusticks being delivered me to prevent any bad Consequence which might happen for the Want of them. Crustrow Belob then took up the Discourse, and mentioned again the Letters they had received from the Governor General respecting Choul being given to the French, and Monsieur St. Lubin having the Command of the Tope Connah, and made some trifling Executes for Monsieur St. Lubin staying here so long; he allowed that some Kind of Promises had been made that Gentleman, but said that they were given only with a Design to amuse him. I replied, that the Durbar best knew their own Reasons for detaining him, but that after the many Equivocations they had been guilty of, until he arrived at some French or English Settlement, we could not believe they really meant to send him away; and that Mr. Mostyn had already replied to the other Points. Morabah then said, that the Durbar had hitherto acted very improperly in making so many Evasions about him, from which the English had an undoubted Right to suspect something was intended against them, but I might however depend Monsieur St. Lubin should

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

should be dispatched in Two or Thre Days: To which I observed, that we expected no less from him, and that it would convince he meant to preserve the Friendship which had so long subsisted between this Durbar and the English. Morabah then said, that the Durbar really intended to have dispatched Mr. Mostyn and Tumbuckur at the Time they mentioned, but that something had intervened which prevented it. I replied, that the Durbar should have settled every Point before they sent for Mr. Mostyn in such a Hurry to Camp; that it was not treating the English in a proper Manner, making their Resident run backwards and forwards upon every trifling Occasion, and it was what they would not suffer. Morabah immediately replied, that the real Cause of Mr. Mostyn's Detention was a Letter he had received from Ragoba, desiring that Tumbuckur might not be dispatched for some Days; that Dadoo Punt arrived this Day from Bombay with Letters from Dadah Sahib, wh:ch would require a few Days to consider of; and that then the Durbar would positively send Mr. Mostyn to Bombay. He then asked me if I thought it would be proper he should write a Letter to the Governor, accounting for this long Delay? I told him, that he undoubtedly ought to have done it before, in order to remove any bad Opinion the Governor and Council might entertain from this trifling Behaviour of the Durbar. Morabah then said, he would write, and send it to Mr. Mostyn to be forwarded, as well as the Answer to the Governor General's Letter. I repeated my Request for the Dustucks, but he studiously avoided giving me a Reply. After my Return from the Durbar I sent the Linguist to Morabah, to know whether he would grant the Dustucks I had applied for; when he replied, that he was obliged to go to Jesuri To-morrow, where he should remain Two Days, but that on his Return he would consider of it, and send his Answer to Mr. Mostyn.

A true Copy.

(Signed) W^o Lewis.

N° 63.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 22d June 1778.

Received the following Letter from Colonel Leslie :

Gentlemen,

I did myself the Honour of addressing you on the 30th ultimo, transmitting to you a Copy of a Letter received from the Honourable President and Council of Bombay.

The Day before Yesterday I advanced with the principal Part of the Troops that form this Detachment, with Intention to take post on the Banks of the Betowah River, leaving Part of the Park of Artillery, the Magazine, and One Battalion of Sepoys, at Kalpee.

Yesterday Expresses arrived at my Camp from the Resident at Poona, covering Orders under Date the 4th of May, that were dispatched in Quadruplicate from the Presidency of Bombay, which require the Prosecution of my March towards that Quarter, in Countermand of their former Orders of the 22d April. Their original Letter I now do myself the Pleasure to lay before you, together with the Resident Mr. Mostyn's Letters of Advice, which accompanied it from Poona. In consequence of these Instructions, I have dispatched Orders to the Officer commanding at Kalpee to join my Detachment with the Magazine and Troops under his Charge, and shall wait his Junction on the Bank of the Betowah, from whence I shall proceed on my Route through Bundlecund with all possible Expedition.

I am sorry to inform you, that the Backwardness which the Maratta Chiefs have shewn to the Performance of the Engagements they have entered into with me, make me dubious of their real Intentions. This Circumstance will in some Shape protract my March; but you may be assured that I shall not be diverted from my direct Route through these Districts by any Resentment of their Duplicity, however their Conduct may merit it, more than the Security of my Detachment may absolutely require.

I have dispatched Coffids in Acknowledgment of the Letters I have received from Poona and Bombay, and shall be punctually attentive to their Desire of being frequently informed of my Advance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Matt^w Leslie.

Head Quarters, Meer Gawa,
5th June 1778.

To the Officer at Calpee, in Command of the Troops under Orders for Bombay.

Sir,

I wrote you under the 3d Instant, enclosing a Letter from the Presidency of Bombay. This is purposely to give Cover to a Letter in Quadruplicate from the same Place, which is dispatched by different Routes, as I am uncertain what Road you mean to take; I shall therefore be obliged

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

liged to you to inform me as soon as possible, that I may be enabled to place Dawk Hircatrah between this Place and you. The Men who will deliver you these Letters are any of them able to inform you of the best and shortest Roads towards Poona. Agreeable to the Orders I have received both from Bengal and Bombay, I am using my Endeavours to procure the necessary Passports for your free Passage through the Maratta Dominions. I have not yet a determinate Answer from the Durbar with respect to them, but hope in a few Days to be able to inform you with more Precision; however, it will be necessary to be strictly on your Guard, and to avoid as much as lays in your Power, the giving any Cause of Complaint; though, from the distracted State of this Government, and the Dissentions amongst the Heads, I do not believe they will dare to oppose your March. You may depend I shall keep you advised of every material Occurrence necessary for your Knowledge, as soon as I know where to address you.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T^r Mostyn.

Poona,
the 11th May 1778.

To the Officer at Calpee, in Command of the Troops under Orders for Bombay.

Sir,

Notwithstanding our Letter of the 22d ultimo, we hereby direct, that on the Receipt hereof you march forward with the Troops under your Command, agreeable to your Orders from the Governor General and Council; and that you give us the most constant and punctual Advice of your Motions, and the Route you pursue, that we may do all in our Power to provide for the Wants, and facilitate the March, of the Army.

We are, &c.
(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

Bombay Castle,
4th May 1778.

N° 64.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 22d June 1778

Received the following Letter from Bombay :

Gentlemen,

We have the Honour to forward a Triplicate of our last Letter, dated the 2d Instant, since when we have received your Letter of the 23d of March.

We have not since received any further Advices from the Resident at Poona, nor taken your Letter into full Consideration; and we only dispatch this to acquaint you, that we have taken off the Restraint we had laid on the March of the Troops from Calpee, and directed the commanding Officer to advance towards this Side, agreeable to the Orders he has received from you.

We shall do all in our Power to facilitate his March, and to procure a safe and unmolested Passage for the Army, and write to you with all possible Precision, the Moment we have taken our Resolutions.

From the friendly Intercourse that has appeared for some Time past to subsist between the French and Hyder Ally Cawn, of which we gave an Instance in our last Letter, we think it would be a very proper Measure to keep a Resident at his Durbar, to endeavour to penetrate and counteract their Schemes; we therefore request to know if you approve this Measure, to which we presume the Nabob can have no reasonable Objection, as we are assured both the French and Dutch maintain Residents at his Court.

Having hitherto obtained no Satisfaction from the Durbar for the Concerned in the Aurora, notwithstanding our repeated Representations, and the Letter from the Governor General, we have fixed the Amount of their Loss as a Claim upon the Revenues of Jambooseer, after the Company's Demands on account the Twelve Lacks and the Country of Three Lacks are made good; and have resolved to retain that Purgunnah until the Sum due to the Sufferers is discharged with Interest; our Proceedings, and the Papers now transmitted by a Sea Conveyance to Madras, will shew the Care we took to examine and ascertain the Claims, and to do all possible Justice to the Poona Government; and we doubt not you will approve the Method we have taken to obtain Satisfaction for the Merchants, whom it is our Duty to protect.

It is with much Concern we acquaint you, that by the London Gazette of the 16th December, just received from Bussora, we learn that General Burgoyne with his whole Army, consisting of 3,500 Fighting Men, was compelled to surrender to General Gates on the 14th of October, on Condition of being transported to England from Boston, and not to serve again in America during the War.

General

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

General Howe remains in Possession of Philadelphia, with which Place the Fleet have in vain endeavoured to open a Communication, and Three of our Ships have been destroyed in the Attempt, viz. the Augusta of 64 Guns, the Roebuck of 44, and the Merlin of 16. General Washington was encamped within a few Miles from Philadelphia, and the Congress had removed to Lancaster: General Clinton with a small Army had proceeded up the River of New York, and had met with some Success.

The Council at Bussora have acquainted us that about the latter End of January, Two French Gentlemen arrived at Grain, from Surat in their Way to Aleppo, and not chusing to wait for the Caravan, just preparing to set out from the former Place, had come to Bussora, from whence they had proceeded by Water to Hillia: "They gave out that one of them was Writer to the French Chief at Surat, and the other a Military Officer; and that they were proceeding to Europe with Letters to the French Ministry regarding a new Settlement that had been lately made by their Nation at Choul." We doubt not these are the individual Persons mentioned in our Letter of the 12th December; but the Council at Bussora add, that through their Impatience they had taken a Route which did not promise much Expedition.

Bombay Cattle,
9th May 1778.

We are, &c.
(Signed) John Carnac,
&c. Council.

Ordered, That the Enclosures in the above Letter be entered after the Consultation.

Mr. Francis delivers in the following Minute :

Mr. Francis—As a formal Motion from me on the Subject of the preceding Letters would only be productive of useless Debate, I shall content myself with laying my Opinion before the Board, leaving it to their Consideration to adopt any Part of it they may think proper. These Letters bring new Matter, and of course a new Question before us. On the Second of May, the Presidency of Bombay inform us, that the Opinion they had formed of the present Situation, added to other Considerations, had induced them to stop the March of the Detachment. In Two Days they suddenly change their Resolution without assigning any Reason for it, and order the Detachment to proceed. By this extraordinary Omission, I think they have failed very much in the Respect they owe to this Government, and in their Duty to the Company. If they act capriciously and without Reason, common Prudence dictates to us that we ought not to leave our Army under such Direction: If they have Reasons for this Change of System, strong enough to supersede the Arguments on which their first Resolution was founded, (which, considering the Shortness of the Interval, and that no Event of any Moment had happened in that Time, is hardly conceivable) they designedly leave us in the Dark with respect to the Motives of their Conduct; and make it impossible for us to act in Concert, or in Confidence with them. I can place no Reliance in the Wisdom of Men, whose Councils, in the Determination of the most important Questions, appear to fluctuate without Plan, Principle, or Object; much less can I think it safe or honourable to co-operate in the Support of Men who affectedly conceal the Motives of their Actions from us, though it be one of their principal Duties to explain those Motives to us. Either Way it is my Opinion, that we ought not to suffer the Detachment to proceed, until we are informed what Change of Circumstances has induced the Presidency of Bombay to revoke their Resolution of the 2d May; that Resolution we know was taken on solid Ground, because their Reasons for it were explained. We ought to be equally satisfied that the Reasons for revoking it are powerful enough to justify the Change: It would but ill become the Dignity of the Supreme Council of India to follow blindly the Caprices of a subordinate Government, nor perhaps would it be quite confident with our Safety, considering that the Presidency of Bombay, even in this last Act, endeavour to fix the Responsibility of it upon us. They do not take it upon themselves to justify the March of the Detachment as an Act of their own: they say only that they have taken off the Restriction under which they had laid the commanding Officer, and directed him to advance, agreeable to the Orders he had received from us; we then are constituted the Authors of the Measure, and must be answerable for the Event.

On what Grounds they have proceeded I know not, but their own Letter states a fact to us which they ought to have compared with the actual Circumstances of Colonel Lefèvre's Army, and which I think should have deterred them from exposing it to a similar Event. In the same Breath they order the Detachment to continue its March across India, forgetting every thing they had said of the Dangers and Difficulties of such a March; and tell us a British Army, attempting a Passage through North America, had been obliged to capitulate. It may be Folly to draw Omens from Misfortunes; but it is equally Want of Wisdom not to suffer Example and Experience to have any Weight with us. Independant of this particular Consideration, I would wish the Board to consider, whether the unfortunate Events in America ought not to have a general Influence upon our Measures here; whether this be a Season for hazarding offensive Operations of any Kind; and, whether Policy and Prudence do not plainly dictate to us, that while the Nation is so deeply engaged and pressed on one Side, with every Thing to apprehend from the Designs of France and Spain on the other, we should stand on our Defence, and not weaken or divide the Force on which the Safety of Bengal may depend.

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

Governor General—Whether Mr. Francis's Minute is delivered as a Motion, or merely as Reflections upon the Measures now before us, it equally claims the Consideration of the Board. Mr. Francis is consistent with his Conduct in repeating his Instances for the Recall of the Detachment; I am equally consistent in proposing, that the Measure which has been so deliberately resolved on shall be prosecuted, since no new Circumstances have intervened to induce me to change my Opinion; nor has Mr. Francis urged one new Argument in support of his, except the Defeat of General Burgoyne in America, to which I hope he does not expect an Answer. The Reasons given by the President and Council of Bombay, in their Letter of the 2d May, for suspending the March of the Detachment, were grounded on Circumstances of which they were not competent Judges: The Expence, the Danger, the Responsibility, were ours. In effect, these do not appear to me to have been the Reasons; we shall probably be informed of them with their promised Letter, containing their Resolutions; but it is of little Moment to the present Question, what were the Motives for their Conduct, either in suspending the March of the Detachment or in directing the Prosecution of it. The original Measure is ours, and all our Resolutions concerning it ought to proceed from our own Knowledge of the Circumstances which have any Relation to it.

I hope that our Affairs in America are not in the desperate Situation in which they are described to be; but I see no Connection between them and the Concerns of this Government, much less can I agree, that with such superior Advantages as we possess over every Power which can oppose us, we should act merely on the Defensive; and abruptly stop the Operation of a Measure of such Importance to the National Interests, and to the National Safety, as that in which we have now decidedly engaged, with the Eyes of all India turned upon it: On the contrary, if it be really true that the British Arms and Influence have suffered to severe a Check in the Western World, it is more incumbent on those who are charged with the Interests of Great Britain in the East, to exert themselves for the Retrieval of the National Losses. We have the Means in our Power, and if they are not frustrated by our own Dissensions, I trust that the Event of this Expedition will yield every Advantage for the Attainment of which it was undertaken. It is not long since one of the many Motions which have been made for the Recall of the Detachment, was supported by an Argument drawn from the Certainty that there was no Probability of a War with France; and the Designs attributed to the French in this Quarter of the World were treated as chimerical and groundless: Now we are told, that the Nation is deeply engaged and pressed on one Side with every thing to apprehend from the Designs of France and Spain; on the other, the Conclusion drawn from this State of Appearances is, That we should stand on our Defence, and not weaken or divide the Force on which the State of Bengal may depend. The Conclusion which I should draw from such Premises is the very Reverse; not that we should act upon the Defensive, and wait till the Designs of our Enemies are ripe, and they have chosen their own Time to carry them into Execution, but that we should provide for the Safety of Bengal, by obviating the impending Dangers, and by rendering their Attempts abortive, before the Time destined for their Birth.

Mr. Francis—As I do not mean to enter further into the general Argument, I shall only observe that the new Matter which I think these Letters bring before us, arises in Part from the profound Silence of the Bombay Council on the Motives of a positive Resolution: When nothing is said in Support of the Affirmative of any Question, that Circumstance alone is sufficient to justify the Negative.

My Language and Opinion, with respect to the Designs of France, and the Policy to be observed by this Government, will be found invariably the same. I do indeed believe that the Schemes imputed to them of Alliances with the Marattas, and of hostile Projects on the Malabar Coast, were chimerical; their Connections with Hyder Ally shew at least that they have taken a very different Turn: But I have constantly urged the Necessity of arming in Bengal, and standing in a Posture of Security and Defence here, without provoking a Quarrel with France, as long as it could be avoided, because I am instructed by the Company, and convinced by my own Judgment, that we ought to make the Safety and Preservation of Bengal our principal Object.—As I find there are no public Letters before the Board, to inform us of the particular Circumstances that attended Colonel Leslie's March on the First Day from Calpee, I beg Leave to lay before the Board an Extract of a private Letter from Camp, to which I gave Credit, and which I think deserves our Consideration: I understand there are many private Letters in Town which give the same Accounts:

"On their First Day's March from Calpee, by the little Care that was taken to provide proper Guides they lost their Road; and although the Ground they proposed to encamp upon was but Eight Cols from Calpee, yet they were Eleven Hours on the Road, from Midnight till Eleven o'Clock; during this Time they marched above 30 Miles, over a burning sandy Plain, without a Drop of Water; between Three and Four hundred Sepoys and Followers of the Camp died raving mad with Thirst.

"Captain Crawford, One of the best and bravest Military Characters in India, died that Day, according to the Opinion of the Doctors, for Want of a Draught of simple Water; he died mad after Two Hours Illness; Colonel Parker, Major Fullerton, Captain Ashe, Captain Shoners, and about Ten Subalterns, were dangerously ill."

Governor General—May I ask Mr. Francis the Name of the Writer of this Letter, since it is delivered as authentic?

Mr. Francis—I have stated it to be a private Letter, consequently cannot mention the Writer's Name; nor would I have introduced it at all, if there had been any public Letter from Colonel Leslie, stating the Circumstances that attended his March: I do not find that he has even reported the Death of

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

of Captain Crawford; but I can assure the Board with Certainty that there are many Letters in this Town to the same Effect.

Governor General—Of the Death of Captain Crawford I received Advice from Colonel Leslie, written at the same Time with his public Letter to the Board; and confounding one Letter with the other, did believe till this Instant that it was mentioned in his public Letter; I have not the Letter by me, but will send it, or an Extract of it, that it may be entered in this Place. I believe that the Troops must have suffered from the Heat and Want of Water on the Road; I did in effect foretell it in a Minute dictated at this Board; but I believe that the anonymous Extracts produced by Mr. Francis is a gross Exaggeration, and calculated more to conciliate the Favour of the Person to whom it was probably addressed, than to convey a strict Relation of the Truth.

“ I will address you again To-morrow; I have sent the requisite Orders for the Magazine to join me from Calpee, and can assure you I shall do my utmost to get on, though we have at present to struggle with a most inclement Season.

“ I have had the Misfortune to lose Captain James Crawford, who commanded the 4th Battalion of Sepoys, by a most violent Fever which carried him off in less than Two Hours; his private Character, and acknowledged Abilities in his Profession, are not unknown to you.

“ I bear more than my Share in the universal Regret and Grief at this Accident, not only by the Loss the Service in general sustains, but the present Expedition in particular.

“ I have the Honour to be,

“ Dear Sir,

“ Your faithful humble Servant,

(Signed)

“ Matt^w Leslie.”

I now return to Mr. Francis's last Minute. I cannot agree with Mr. Francis, in terming the Silence of the Presidency of Bombay, new Matter for a Question depending solely on our own Resolutions; but whatever Weight this Argument may have on one Side, it is equally counterpoised on the other, and leaves us just where we were with respect to the Motives of our own Actions. They were silent on the Causes which induced them to suspend the March of the Detachment: They were silent on their Motives for repealing this Suspension; and I for my own Part am better pleased with the Solitude they have shewn, to make Colonel Leslie acquainted with their last Intentions, than if they had waited; and of course, unnecessarily impeded the Service, for the tedious official Formalities of a public Letter, detailing all their Realons.

If Mr. Francis does indeed still believe, that the Schemes imputed to the French of Alliances with the Marattas, and of hostile Projects on the Malabar Coast were chimerical, I would beg Leave to ask him, but do not insist on his Answer, Whether he believes the Character assumed by the Chevalier St. Lubin of a Minister from the Court of France to be false? and whether the Attestations of it by Sicaram Baboo, and Nana Furnese, the Ministers of the Maratta State, and the formal Notification made by them to this Government, that the Chevalier St. Lubin had delivered Letters and Presents from the King of France, were false, and for what Purpose this Collusion was concerted? If it be admitted, that the Chevalier St. Lubin is Minister from the Court of France to that of Poona, What is the Object of his long Residence? and what was the Object of his Mission? When the Conclusion which I have drawn from each Appearance, and which has been echoed by all the World, is pronounced chimerical, I have a Right to require that some other be set up in its stead. Much Stress has been laid on a former Assertion made by me, respecting the supposed Grant to St. Lubin of the Port of Choul. I had but repeated what I knew to be on our Records; but could not immediately turn to the Passages which related to it; and I trusted to Time, the best Discoverer of Truth, to justify the Opinion which I founded upon them. I now beg Leave, in this Place, to quote the following Passage of a Letter from Fort St. George, dated 16th January last, which mentions the Grant of the Port of Choul as a Fact of undoubted Notoriety. “ With respect to any Connections which may have been formed by the Maratta State, we can only speak from Conjecture. It seems probable that some Engagements may be in Agitation, or perhaps concluded between that State and the Soubah; and they have lately we believe maintained a close Correspondence with the French; as appears from the Proceedings of Monsieur St. Lubin at Poona, and the Grant which they have given to the French at Choul on the Malabar Coast, of which you have lately been advited.” I never supposed that a public Grant or Sunnud had been executed for this Purpose. This would not have suited the Policy of either Party. The present Use of the Port, and the Promise of it in Property, was all that the Chevalier St. Lubin could desire, until his Designs were ripe for Execution. I believe most firmly, that such a Promise was made him by the ruling Member of the Administration; nay, I have been informed, and by an Authority which (though I think myself not at Liberty to mention it) merits my entire Credit of it, that St. Lubin did make a Purchase of a Church standing near the Shore, for the Purpose of establishing a present Store-house, and of converting it, with the Ground around it, to a Fortress hereafter. I shall now produce the last and most conclusive Evidence of the Reality of the Engagements, executed between Nana Furnese and the Chevalier St. Lubin, and even of the Design to grant the Property of the Port of Choul to the latter. It is extracted from Mr. Lewis's Diary. I shall insert the Passage at large, and desire that the Parts to which I allude may be marked by a Line drawn underneath.

“ Wednesday

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64.

" Wednesday 29th April. On account of some particular religious Ceremonies Moraba was engaged in, this being a Holiday, I had not an Opportunity of seeing him until 7 o'Clock, P. M. I found there Chintoo Wittul and Gopaul Naique Tumbuckur. After delivering the Letters from the Governor General agreeably to Mr. Mostyn's Orders, I explained their Contents, when Moraba asked me, whom we had to fear? I told him that in consequence of the Governor General and Council being advised of the Treaty with Monsieur St. Lubin, they had Cause to imagine some evil Designs were intended against the Company's Settlements on the Western Side of India. He immediately answered, That there was no Treaty between this Government and that Gentleman. I replied, that I sincerely believed there was not; but that I was convinced there was One subsisting between Nana and him, the Contents of which we had the greatest Reason to suppose were greatly to our Prejudice; and that it was in consequence of this Treaty that the Troops mentioned in the Governor General's Letter were coming to the Assistance of Bombay. I therefore requested the necessary Dustucks for their freely passing through any Part of the Maratta Dominions they might have Occasion to come to, as well as their being properly supplied with a friendly Buzar. Moraba confessed a Knowledge of the Treaty between Nana and Monsieur St. Lubin; but said he could not give me an Answer with respect to the Dustucks I required, until after the Durbar met To-morrow.

" Sunday 3d May about 6 P. M. Moraba sent a Message desiring my Attendance at the Durbar. I accordingly went and found there Crustrow Belol, Chintoo Wittal, and Gopaul Naique Trumbuckur. Moraba told me that as the Letters from the Governor General mentioned the Troops he was sending to Bombay to be on Account of the French being here, he had sent for Monsieur St. Lubin, in order to give him his Dispatches, and requested to know if in such Case we should still want the Dustucks I asked for at my last Visit, or whether the Troops would be prevented proceeding? I answered, that according to the Governor General's Letter to Mr. Mostyn, the Troops would have been near Twenty Days on their March, and that of course the Dustucks would be necessary to prevent any Disputes on the Road; to which he observed, that the Durbar's Vackel had written them, that the Governor General had told him the Troops would not march until the Durbar's Answers were received. I replied, that this was contrary to what the Governor General had written to Mr. Mostyn, but perhaps they might be stopped should the News of the Change in Government, which Mr. Mostyn had dispatched the Day after it happened, reach Calcutta in Time; but as this was very uncertain I repeated my Request for the Dustucks being delivered to me, to prevent any bad Consequences which might happen from the Want of them. Crustrow Beloll then took up the Discourse, and mentioned again the Letters they had received from the Governor General, respecting Choul being given to the French, and Monsieur St. Lubin having the Command of the Toff Counah, and made some trifling Excuses for Monsieur St. Lubin staying here so long; he allowed that some Kind of Promises had been made that Gentleman, but said they were given only with a Design to amuse him. I replied, that the Durbar best knew their own Reasons for detaining him; but that after the many Equivocations they had been guilty of, until he arrived at some French or English Settlement, we could not believe that they really meant to send him away; and that Mr. Mostyn had already replied to the other Points. Moraba then said, that the Durbar had hitherto acted very improperly in making so many Evasions about him, from which the English had an undoubted Right to suspect something was intended against them; but I might however depend Monsieur St. Lubin should be dispatched in Two or Three Days."

Mr. Francis—My private Belief is not stated as an Argument that ought to weigh with the Board, but merely to clear the Consistency of my own Conduct and Opinion, in Answer to an Objection urged against it. In many of our late Debates I have formally admitted the Possibility of the Schemes and Negotiations said to be carrying on between the French and the Marattas, but at the same Time have contended that all such Schemes and Negotiations have totally failed of Success. The Fact beyond all Question is, that the French at this Day are not in Possession of Choul; and I presume it will not be disputed that they are engaged in Connections with Hyder Ally, who is at War with the Marattas, and that they have furnished him with Military Assistance.

With respect to Monsieur St. Lubin, he is an Agent of so low an Order, and a Person of a Character so infamous in India, that I cannot believe he was ever intrusted with a Letter from the King of France. What his Designs have been, or what Instructions he may have received from his Employers, I know not: It is sufficient, for the Support of every Argument in which I have taken a Part on this Subject, that his Hopes, whatever they were, have been disappointed, and that his Designs are actually defeated.

Governor General—As Mr. Francis has shifted the Grounds of the Question, I am not bound to continue the Argument, but in Answer to One Passage only which is directly applied to the present Subject of Debate. As Mr. Francis is now pleased to say, that he cannot believe that he was ever intrusted with a Letter from the King of France, I beg Leave to enter here for the Third Time the strongest Proof which a Fact of that Nature can admit, the Declaration to which I have before alluded of the Ministers themselves, in the following Extracts of their Letters to me. With respect to the French Connections with Hyder Ally, those I admit, and shall hereafter explain, as well as the Inconsistency imputed to what I alledged on this Subject in the Minutes delivered by me on the 11th June.

A P P E N D I X, N° 58—63 and 64. N° 59 and 61.

“ Monsieur Le Chevalier de St. Lubin, on the Part of the King of France, lately arrived on board Ship on this Coast, and landed at Rio Dunda belonging to the Government; from whence he transmitted a Letter to Seremunt Row Sahib Row Pundit Purdhan, containing a Request of Audience to treat with him, which if granted, they would wait on him and fully explain to him the Subjects of their Mission. As Friendship has subsisted from Time immemorial between the French Nation and the illustrious Family of Seremunt Sahib, and moreover in Compliance with the Duties of Hospitality, an Order for their Approach was sent from the Presence. When the aforesaid Gentleman arrives, the Subjects of their Negotiation will be explained.”

Extracts of Letters from the Poona Durbar to the Governor General.

“ I some time ago wrote you Information of the Approach of a Person deputed by the King of France to this Quarter. Monsieur Chevalier de St. Lubin has lately been honoured with an Audience of the Pundit Purdhan Peshwa Sahib, of strengthening and confirming the ancient Friendship which subsisted between the Two Nations, and he also spoke on the Subject of their ancient Intimacy and Connection.”

“ As the rainy Season was set in violently, Mr. Le Chevalier has been delayed on this Account. The Duties of Hospitality, both to Friends and Strangers, are incumbent on Chiefs of high Rank.”

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X, N° 59 and 61.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th June 1778.

THE Governor General—I forbear in this Place to comment upon the preceding Letters; I suppose that the Orders sent by the President and Council of Bombay to Colonel Leslie must have been received; but as it is possible that they may have been intercepted, I propose that a Letter be written to Colonel Leslie, informing him of the Substance of this Order, and confirming it by an Order from this Board; but that he be directed to complete the Preparations which he has been making for the Equipment of his Detachment, and that he hold himself in Readiness to march on immediate Warning.

Mr. Wheler—I feel myself very much averse to throwing any Difficulty or Embarrassment upon the Subject now before the Board.

The Question as it stands I can approve of in Part, but without some further Explanation, I fear I cannot entirely accede to it; the First Part of the Letter, advising Colonel Leslie of the Substance of the Bombay Letter, and the Confirmation of this Board, is acceded to, and likewise that he be directed to complete the Preparation which he has been making for the Equipment of his Detachment, as I have Reason to fear he is very ill provided and prepared for so long and hazardous a March: As to the last Part, “ that he hold it in Readiness to march on immediate Warning,” I do not consent to it, unless the Order shall previously receive the Sanction of this Board; I likewise think it should be ascertained, whether Colonel Leslie should with his Army recross the Jumna, or if not, where and how he is to dispose of it during the approaching Rains.

Mr. Francis—Considering the Nature of the Advices received Yesterday from Bombay, I own I had not the least Doubt that the present extraordinary Council was summoned with a View to countermand the Expedition, and to recall our Forces to the Defence of our own Dominions. The Presidency of Bombay tell us, “ that the Opinion they had formed on the present Situation of Affairs, “ and their Desire to save the Company from the heavy Expence, and their Troops from the Dangers and Difficulties of a March from our Provinces to that Side of India, had led them to put “ a Stop to the March of the Army.” After such a Rebuff as this from the Government, in support of whose Projects these extraordinary Steps have been taken here, and after so plain a Declaration from them, that they will not take any Part in the Responsibility of a Measure so expensive, so dangerous, and so difficult, I confess I had no Thought that any Idea of persevering in the Execution of such a Measure could still prevail at this Board. I was in Hopes that nothing would be required of me To-day, but to join as I should have done, heartily in approving the Reversal of Measures, which I had constantly opposed and condemned; the Motion by no Means answers my Expectations or comes Home to my Opinion.

I think we should immediately send Orders to Colonel Leslie to recross the Jumna, and to station his Troops in such Places as may be most convenient and most easily made for their Reception during the Rains; I can never agree to their halting on the other Side of the River; if it be in an Enemy’s Country, the Army must be exposed to many of the Dangers and Difficulties which would attend their March, and probably be forced into Acts of Hostility, which may produce a general War. If it be

A P P E N D I X, N° 59 and 61.

meant that they shall quarter in the Territories of the Raja of Bundelcund, I suppose it may be done without Danger, but it must be attended with the Ruin of his Country, at the same Time that our Army is detained from the Defence of our own Frontier. It is in vain for me to say more on a Subject which has been so often discussed; I must leave it to the Majority to decide as they think proper. One Circumstance only I think it necessary to point out to the Attention of the Court of Directors. We have been hitherto told that the French were engaging in dangerous Negotiations with the Marattas, and this Fact has often been pressed upon the Board as a Reason for the Part we have taken in their Affairs: It now appears by the Letter from Bombay, that Monsieur Bellecombe had sent a Ship of War to Mangalore, where several Artillery Officers, Two hundred Men, and a large Quantity of Military Stores, are landed for the Service of the Nabob Hyder Ally. But Hyder Ally is at War with the Marattas, and has lately obtained some Advantages over them; it is impossible then that any Intrigues between the French and the Marattas can have taken Effect if ever they existed. The Conclusions therefore drawn from that supposed Fact fall to the Ground, and if we act consistently with our Reasonings, the Measures built on those Conclusions must fall with them.

Mr. Barwell—It seems to be the Sentiments of Mr. Wheler and Mr. Francis, that the Detachment should continue embodied and remain under the Command of Colonel Leslie. The only Proposition contained in either of the Votes, that appears at all to militate against the Orders proposed by the Governor General, is that the Troops shall be directed to re-cross the Jumna. Considering the Policy that renders it necessary to continue the Detachment embodied, I see no Reason for restricting the Officer in Command of it from chusing that Station for the Troops he may in his Judgment conceive best calculated either to facilitate his Progress, or to enable him to return to the Provinces. From the Time that has elapsed in preparing this Force, the Readiness in which it is to be kept to march at a Minute's Warning, is equally calculated for Offence and Defence, and whilst it is not advanced to a greater Distance than Thirty or Forty Cols from the Frontier of Oude, or Raja Cheyt Sing's Dominions, I will venture to affirm that our Powers of Defence are greatly increased. In giving my Opinion for the proposed Order to Colonel Leslie, I do not think it essential to go back into the Policy that gave Rise to the Armament at Calpee, though I think it necessary to propose an Addition to the Quotation made from the Bombay Letter by Mr. Francis, following the Words " landed for the Service of the Nabob Hyder Ally ;" " and the Ship, after " Sir Edward Vernon was out of Sight to the Northward of her, returned to Mahé, to carry Monsieur Bellecombe back to Pondicherry. The Sartine is gone into Goa River, where she probably " may remain during the Monsoon; and it is there said, that the French were deterred from proceeding to Choul by the Appearance of our Squadron, and supposing that War was declared, " and perhaps by the News of the Revolution at Poona, but we have learnt that the Captain who " was at Choul, has ordered her up thither (to Choul)."

Mr. Francis—I have not made myself understood. My Opinion is, that the Expedition should be absolutely countermanded, and Colonel Leslie's present Command of course dissolved as soon as he has quatered his Troops on this Side the Jumna, in the best Manner the Season will permit; after the Rains, the severall Detachments of which his Army is composed, ought to be remanded to their former Stations.

Governor General—if I had thought it necessary to have replied minutely to the Objections which have been made to this Question, Mr. Barwell has precluded me, by anticipating all that I could have said upon the Subject; but there is an Observation which Mr. Francis has introduced, and expressed as it is, to be foreign from the Question of which I am compelled to take Notice, by the Solemn Reference which he has made of it to the Court of Directors. Mr. Francis has said, " One Circumstance only I think it necessary to point out to the Attention of the Court of Directors; we have been hitherto told, that the French were engaging in dangerous Negotiations with the Marattas, and this Fact has often been pressed upon the Board as a Reason for the Part we have taken in their Affairs: It now appears, by the Letter from Bombay, that Monsieur Bellecombe had sent a Ship of War to Mangalore, where several Artillery Officers, Two hundred Men, and a large Quantity of Military Stores, were landed for the Service of the Nabob Hyder Ally." Mr. Barwell has properly added the Context of this Quotation, and thereby restored it to the proper Sense implied and intended by both. By this Method of selecting partial Passages, and by an artificial Application or Combination of them, of which I have too frequently had Occasion to complain in the Contest in which I have been unfortunately involved with Mr. Francis, it is in his Power not only to pervert the original Meaning of the Text, but to draw any Conclusions he pleases from them, however opposite to the Sentiments of those who wrote them. I am in Possession of Materials, received through Channels too remote for the Possibility of their having been suggested by the Knowledge of what has happened on the other Side of India, by which I learn that the Destination of the Troops, which were landed from the Brilliante at Mangalore, were for Choul. The additional Sentence of the Bombay Letter, which Mr. Barwell has desired to be inserted, may serve in Part to explain the apparent Inconsistency of Troops intended for the Service of the Marattas, being converted to that of the Enemies, nor will it be difficult to comprehend the Caule of so sudden a Change in the Conduct of Monsieur Bellecombe, on the Difficulties presented to him, if we suppose him to have been reluctantly compelled into the Support of a System formed independent of his Authority, and that his own Inclinations led him to prefer another Alliance, which I have Reason to believe was the Case.

Mr. Francis—I beg Leave to say that my Argument is not answered; I state it as a Fact, which is

A P P E N D I X, N° 59 and 61.

is not disputed, that the French have lately sent Military Assistance to Hyder Ally, who is at War with the Marattas : From this undisputed Fact I conclude that, even admitting any Negotiations whatsoever to have been carried on between the French and the Marattas at a former Period, and even admitting the private Information to which the Governor General refers to be authentic (though to this Board it could be no Evidence before it was mentioned) still it is true, that the French have now taken part with Hyder Ally ; of course we have nothing to fear from those dangerous Intrigues, which, to save Time and Argument, I will admit to have taken Place between them and the Marattas, nor any Reason to persevere in the Execution of Measures, which were adopted with a professed View to counteract those Intrigues. This Argument I take to be strict, and in Point ; I submit to Judgment, whether it is answered by general Complaints of unfair Quotations, which considering that the Letter quoted is before the Board, and will be before the Court of Directors, would be not less injurious than they would be unfair.

Governor General—I will answer Mr. Francis's Argument in the Manner in which he requires ; still complaining, as I have a Right to complain, of the partial Selection of Facts for the Purpose of maintaining his Opinion. It is true that the President and Council of Bombay write, that they had learnt that the Brilliante proceeded to Mangalore, where several Artillery Officers, Two hundred Men, and a large Quantity of Military Stores, were landed for the Service of the Nabob Hyder Ally : They do not assert this for a Fact, nor do they assert that the Report, which they thus repeat to us, went further than the Landing of the Troops, and the simple Intention of employing them for the Service of Hyder Ally ; in Effect, this Intelligence consists only of conjectural Conclusions from an unascertained Fact : To this obscure Intelligence, and to this vague Inference drawn from it, I desire Leave to oppose the following Extract from Mr. Molty's Letter, containing the Recital of an authenticated Fact, admitting but of One Conclusion, namely, that the Chevalier St. Lubin, the public and avowed Minister of the Court of France, was still retained at Poona in Desiance of all the Remonstrances of our Agent there, and of the President and Council of Bombay, and that the same Countenance was shewn him by the Members of the new Administration as he had before received from the ruling Members of the former Government ; hence I conclude, in Opposition to Mr. Francis's Conclusion, that we have yet stronger Grounds than ever, both for the Conviction of the French Intrigues with the Maratta State, and for the Fear of their Consequences. " Notwithstanding Moraba's assertions to Mr. Lewis, Monsieur St. Lubin has not yet been to Proonder, though it is said he is now sent for ; but from the equivocating Conduct of the Durbar, both before and since Moraba has had the executive Authority, it is a Doubt with me whether they will dispatch him, or even if they do, whether he will leave Poona, as from the Lateness of the Season he will have it in his Power to delay the Time until the Rains set in, when he will make the Plea of its being impossible for him to go any where."

Mr. Francis—I did understand from the Governor General's preceding Minute, that the Facts had been admitted.

N° 61.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th June 1778.

Resolved, That the following Letters be written to Colonel Leslie, to Bombay, and to Mr. Molty.

Sir,

By a Letter which we have received from the President and Council of Bombay, under Date the 2d May, we are informed, that the Assurances given by the new Ministers at Poona, of their breaking off the Connection with the French, had made the President and Council willing to hope that the first and grand Object of the Measures thus proposed to us, might be accomplished by the late Revolution in the Government of Poona ; but as Monsieur St. Lubin had not been dismissed, and they were uncertain whether the new Ministry were sincere in their Promises, they did not mean to be relax in their Vigilance towards the Intentions of that Government ; however, until they could judge with more Certainty of their Disposition, the Opinion which the President and Council had formed of the present Situation of Affairs, and their Desire to save the Company from the heavy Expence and our Troops from the Dangers and Difficulties of a March from these Provinces to the West Side of India, had induced them to send you an Order not to advance any further until you should hear again from them.

We conclude, that ere this you have received their Orders, and put a Stop to the March of the Detachment in consequence ; but lest they should have been intercepted, or by some Accident prevented from reaching you, we think it proper to confirm them, by directing them to halt accordingly, until you shall receive further Orders on the Subject from the President and Council at Bombay or from us ; but you will nevertheless continue the Preparations which you have been making for the Equipment of the Detachment under your Command, until they shall be completed : And we further direct, that you hold it in Readiness to march on immediate Warning.

We are, &c.

Gentlemen,

A P P E N D I X, N° 59 and 61. N° 60.

Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter of the 2d ultimo.

Lest the Orders which you inform us you have sent to Colonel Leslie, should have been intercepted, or by any Accident prevented from reaching him, we have confirmed them by Injunctions to halt with the Detachment under his Command where he now is, on the other Side of the Jumna but to hold himself in Readiness to continue his March on immediate Notice.

We are, &c.

Sir,

We have this Day received your Duplicate Letter of the 12th ultimo, enclosing one from the President and Council of Bombay, dated the 2d of the same Month.

For Want of the Copy of Mr. Lewis's Proceedings, which are said to be enclosed in your Letter, we are much at a Loss to comprehend the Facts which you allude to; but we observe, with great Concern upon the Whole, that the new Ministers, by a dilatory and evasive Conduct, have already furnished Grounds to distrust the Sincerity of the Intentions which they had professed to you; we therefore wait with Impatience for more clear and decisive Advices of their Proceedings, and we request you will not delay to acquaint us with them by every Opportunity.

In consequence of the Letter from the President and Council of Bombay, wherein they inform us that they had thought it proper to send Orders to Colonel Leslie, not to advance any further with the Detachment under his Command, until they should be able to judge with more Certainty of the Disposition of the new Government, and to furnish him with Instructions for his Conduct; we have confirmed these Orders, by directing him to halt accordingly where he now is, but to hold himself in Readiness to continue his March on immediate Notice.

We are, &c.

A P P E N D I X, N° 60.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 11th July 1778.

Letter from Bombay.

Gentlemen,

ENCLOSED we have the Honour to forward a Triplicate of our last Address, dated the 20th instant.

Having since received some material Advices from Mr. Mostyn, we now forward Copies thereof by a Ship bound to Madras, the Conveyance by Sea being at this Season the most expeditious.

We also enclose Copies of Two French Letters which lately fell into our Hands: They are from the Commander of the French Snow, mentioned in our Letter of the 20th January to have arrived at Choul, and having been put on board a Vessel at Damaun, of whose Destination he was ignorant, came into our Possession, after having been carried to Bussorah and back again. As you will now have these Letters before you, it is needless for us to make any Comments.

The Resident at Tellicherry has lately advised us, that he has received certain Information that the Number of Men landed at Mangalore from the Brilliante was only 12 Artillery, 12 Infantry, and One Officer, instead of Two hundred Men as before advised.

We have received the new Cypher from Captain Roddam; and are, with Respect, &c.

(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

Bombay Castle,
31st May 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 62.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 15th June 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

RECEIVED the following Letter from Colonel Leslie:

Gentlemen,

I had the Honour to address you on the 20th instant, with the Information of the First Division of this Detachment having passed the Jumna; the Park of Artillery, Magazine, Stores, &c. with Two Battalions of the 2d Division and the Nabob's Cavalry, crossed a few Days following; and I have been delayed commencing my March from Calpee by the Negotiations the Maratta Chiefs have been carrying on with me for the Re-establishment of Peace. This Day I have received their final Acquiescence to my free Passage through their Country, and their promised Aid of Provisions; for their faithful Performance of which I am to be attended by a Person of Rank, and to retain Possession of the Fort of Calpee, so long as it may be necessary for the Convenience of my Communication with those Provinces.

The Terms upon which these Matters are adjusted are contained in the enclosed Paper, which I now lay before you, and shall be happy if in this Endeavour to effect the Spirit of your Instructions I may merit your Approbation.

It was my Intention to have advanced a Part of the Troops To-morrow Morning; but an Express Letter, which I have received by this Day's Post from the Honourable the President and Council of Bombay, and transmitted by your Resident at Benares, positively forbids my Advance, as unnecessary in the present State of Affairs at Poona, and directing me to wait their further Orders. Under Cover I have the Honour to lay before you a Copy of their Letter. Your Instructions, requiring my strict Compliance with the Orders of the President and Council of Bombay on my crossing the Jumna, entirely prohibits my taking any Measures upon the Presumption of what may be your Sentiments on the present Occasion; but as the Situation of Calpee will not admit of my taking Post here so long as it may be before I receive their promised Instructions, I shall extend my Front to the Banks of the Betowa River, about 10 Cols on the Road to Chatterpore, in which Situation I shall be most conveniently situated for putting in Execution any Orders you may please to honour me with, and I shall be ready to pursue my March if the Presidency of Bombay should require it. I esteem my Advance thus far from Calpee necessary to support the Appearance of my Progress, that the Chief of Berar may not conclude himself neglected, and I shall address him to this Purport: The presumptuous Chiefs of this District will also be convinced by this Step, that their Efforts have not in any Shape tended to retard the March of the Detachment. I earnestly solicit your Directions for my Conduct in this Situation of Affairs, and whatever Orders I may receive in the Interim from the Bombay Presidency shall be complied with, and immediate Notice thereof transmitted to you.

I have the Honour, &c. &c.

Head Quarters, Calpee,
30th May 1778.

(Signed) Matt^w Leslie.

Translation of a Letter from Colonel Matt^w Leslie to Gangadur Pundit; dated the 27th May 1778.

Upon my Approach to Calpee I wrote to you and your Brother Balagee, informing you that I should proceed to the Southward through your Country; that I had no hostile Intentions towards you; that I should be careful in preventing my Troops and their Followers from committing Depredations or molesting the Inhabitants during my March through your Country; that I required your friendly Assistance in supplying me with Grain, and such other Necessaries as I might require of you for the Service of my Camp; and that whatever Necessaries I might be supplied with, I would pay a proper Price for them.

In your Answers to my Letters, you express the highest Respect for the English, likewise your Inclination to increase that Friendship which you had before established with them; and you seemed happy that this Event would afford you an Opportunity of evincing your Readiness to oblige the English Government.

After such very friendly Expressions and Assurances, I little expected the Reception of an Enemy on crossing my Troops at Kulpee Ghat: As I have already given you my Sentiments very fully on

A P P E N D I X, N^o 62.

the Conduct of your People towards me, I judge a Repetition unnecessary; but as you have solicited me to make you acquainted with such Circumstances as I may deem material for my Service, I do therefore stipulate the following Articles:

- 1st. That my Troops are to have a free and unmolested Passage through your Country.
- 2d. That you will cause the Troops to be supplied with Provisions and other Necessaries, during their March through your Country; for which a proper Price shall be given.
- 3d. That the Communication to and from my Camp be kept open and protected, and that you afford every Assistance required of you on this Subject.
- 4th. As your People of your own Accord did evacuate the Town and Fort of Kulpee, I am now in Possession of both; I therefore judge it expedient to retain the Fort by placing a small Guard in it, as a Security for the Performance of your Promises to me; I likewise require a Man of Credit, Respect, and of your Confidence, who shall proceed with me; and if upon my Arrival at Chatterpore, I shall have experienced the Effects of your friendly Intentions and Readiness to give me Assistance, I shall then direct the Return of your Friend, and order the Guard to be withdrawn from the Fort, and you put in Possession of it.
- 5th. That no Bodies of your Troops are at any Time to appear near my Line of March; if they do, I shall conclude that their Intentions are hostile.

These are my Demands, and as I cannot doubt your good Intentions towards the Welfare of your Country, I should suppose you will immediately comply with them. I once more assure you that my Intentions towards you and your Country are most friendly, and I shall be attentive in preventing my Troops and their Followers from committing the smallest Irregularities during my March through your Country: I want not the Assistance of Troops, as I have no hostile Intentions towards any one.

(Signed) P. Hay,
P. Translator.

To the Officer at Calpee in Command of the Troops under Orders for Bombay.

Sir,

From the present Situation of Affairs in this Quarter, we think it necessary to desire that you will not advance further towards Bombay until you hear again from us.

We are, &c.

Bombay Castle,
22d April 1778.

(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

Resolved, that the following Letter be written to Colonel Leslie:

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 30th ultimo.

We approve of the Intention you express to move the Detachment to the Banks of the Betowa River for the Purpose of encamping them. We leave the Choice of the Ground in that Situation to your Judgment, but forbid you to advance any further than the Line on which you propose to encamp, till you receive Orders to that Effect.

We also think it necessary to forbid the Application of the Treasure constituting the Military Chest for the Expedition, which was sent to you from Lucknow, to the Pay or any other Expences of the Detachment, until you shall receive Orders either from the Presidency and Council of Bombay or from us, to continue your March; but in the mean Time you will cause the Disbursements of the Paymaster to be made from the usual Supplies, which the Resident at the Nabob's Court has been directed regularly to furnish you with.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
15th June 1778.

Agreed, That the following Letter be written to Mr. Middleton:

Sir,

Having ordered Colonel Leslie with the Detachment under his Command to halt on the Banks of the River Betowa till further Orders, we think it proper that the Treasure constituting the Military Chest for the intended Expedition, should be reserved unapplied till he may find it necessary to proceed; we therefore direct that you continue to furnish the regular and necessary Supplies for the Pay and Expences of this Corps during the Continuance of its Stay in that Place.

We have received your Letter of the 29th ultimo.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
the 15th June 1778.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X, № 65 and 66.

Bengal Secret Consultations, dated 29th June 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

R E C E I V E D the following Letter from Bombay:

Gentlemen,

We have been favoured with your Letter of the 6th ultimo, enclosing Copy of your Instructions to Colonel Leslie.

Our Letters of the 2d and 9th Instant have been already forwarded in Duplicate.

In the First of these Letters we acquainted you of having directed the Commander of the Bengal Detachment not to advance without further Advice from us; and in the latter, of our having taken off that Restraint, and directed him to move forward agreeable to his Instructions from you.

When the late Change was effected in the Poona Government, we at first entertained Hopes it would be followed by all the good Consequences our proposed Measures were intended to produce, but we more particularly depended that the French Influence at the Maratta Court would be destroyed by that Event: for these and the other Reasons mentioned in our Letter of the 2d Instant, we judged it best to stop the March of the Bengal Detachment till we could form a more certain Judgment of the Disposition of the Administration.

Having indulged these Hopes as far as Probability will warrant, we think we can no longer in Prudence take our Measures upon such Expectations; and your Letter of the 23d March more fully explaining your Views, and giving us Authority to demand proper Explanations from the Durbar on certain Points, we then judged it expedient to order the Bengal Detachment to advance; which, from the Nature of your Orders prior to that Letter, we did not think could answer any End adequate to the Expence and Danger of the March, for we beg Leave to observe, that after the Plan for Ragoba had miscarried, it was impossible for us to defeat the Designs of the French, and not to break the Treaty of Poona.

Every Letter we have received from Poona since the Revolution, and the uniform Tenor of the Conduct of the new Administration, evidently prove that they still mean to continue the same Line of evasive Conduct so long pursued by that Government; we doubt not but your Advices from Mr. Mostyn will have impressed you with the same Opinion. Though the executive Power is transferred from Nanah to Moraba, the former is still in Office, and a Member of the Durbar; the latter, as far as we can judge, seems inclined to tread in the Footsteps of his Predecessor, and unwilling to part with any Share of his Power to Ragoba, may seek to secure the Whole to himself by the same Means. Monsieur St. Lubin is still permitted to remain at Poona, although his Dismissal was the first Object of our Instructions to Mr. Mostyn, after the Change in the Administration took place, and he received every Satisfaction on that Head that Promises could give, so long ago as the 10th of last March. Notwithstanding the Request then made in public Durbar to Mr. Mostyn, to accompany their Agent to Bombay, with Proposals respecting Ragoba, we find by his latest Advices, that they have been only trifling with him, nor have they to his Knowledge yet taken one Step towards settling that Business, though the Season is now so late. The Treaty still remains on the same Footing on which it has stood these Two Years past, nor has the new Government taken any Measure whatever for fulfilling the unexecuted Articles.

Such being the Situation of Affairs, we could not, with your Orders before us, wait any longer in Expectation of Proposals from Poona; we have therefore given Mr. Mostyn Instructions to the following Purport, being exactly agreeable to the Directions contained in your Letter of the 23d of March.

First. We have directed him in the Name of this Government, and under your Authority, to call upon the new Administration to declare expressly whether they consider the Maratta State as bound by the Treaty of Poona, and to pledge their own Faith to it.

Secondly. We have directed him, agreeable to the said Treaty, to demand immediate Possession of a Country of Three compleat Lacks of Rupees, near or adjoining to Broach in the Manner stipulated by the Fifth Article, and in case the Ministers shall refuse to comply with this Demand, we further directed him to declare their Refusal to be a Violation of the Treaty.

It is necessary to observe that we directed Mr. Mostyn to signify to the Ministers at the Time he made his Demands, that we were willing to receive, in full Completion of the 5th Article, a Country

that

A P P E N D I X, N° 65 and 66.

that will produce to the Company Three Lacks of Rupees a Year in the gross Revenue, without any Allowance being made for the Charges of Collection.

Thirdly. We have directed him to acquaint the Ministers that we have Orders from you to keep Possession of the Countries ceded to the Honourable Company by Futtu Sing, since they have failed in producing the Proofs required by the Treaty, that Futtu Sing Guicawar did not possess Power or Authority to make such Cessions.

Fourth. We directed him to make a proper Remonstrance, agreeable to the Terms of your Letter, against the Countenance afforded to the Chevalier St. Lubin, against his being permitted to continue at Poona, notwithstanding the Promises we have received since the late Change in the Government, and to demand from them a clear and satisfactory Explanation of their Intentions with respect to the French; declaring to them, that the Governor General and Council will take such Measures as Prudence shall dictate for the future Safety of the Company's Interest and Possessions committed to their Charge.

In this Place we think it our Duty to request to be informed what Measures you propose to pursue, in case their Answer on this Occasion should not prove satisfactory, or their future Conduct should give us Reason for Apprehension, as our being furnished with timely Instructions may be of the utmost Importance.

Fifthly. As we have experienced so much Equivocation and Delay in the Conduct of the Poona Government, we thought it necessary, in Addition to the Points laid down by you, to direct Mr. Mostyn to deliver his Demands in Writing; and at the same Time to acquaint the Ministers, that we expected an immediate and explicit Answer likewise in Writing; but that if such an Answer was not returned within Fourteen Days from the Time of the Delivery of our Demands, we should consider any further Evasion or Delay as a Refusal, and take our Measures accordingly.

The Settlement made by Colonel Upton respecting Jambooseer having been agreed to by us, rendered it unnecessary to make the Second of the Demands enjoined in your Letter. You will please to bear in mind, that our Claim on Jambooseer has been increased by the further Demands for an Equivalent for the Loss the Company have sustained by the Delay of the Ministers in making over the Country of Three Lacks, and for Restitution of the Loss sustained by the Merchants concerned in the Aurora, which we have fixed as Charges on the Revenues of that Province.

The Resolutions we have taken, will put the Conduct of the new Administration to a clear Test; and their Answer will enable us to form a Judgment of the Footing we are to be on with that Government.

The Answer Mr. Mostyn has received from the Durbar to his Application for Passports and Supplies for the Bengal Detachment, amounting to a Denial, we gave him Directions, which he had anticipated, to make a direct Application for that Purpose to Tookajee Holkar himself, and to Mhadjee Scindy; to both of whom the President has likewise written, and given them the Assurances directed in your Letter. Mr. Lewis's Report, transmitted to you by Mr. Mostyn, will place the Conduct of the Durbar on this Point in a clear Light, and give you a further Idea of their Views and Intentions. In a Letter just received, he further acquaints us, that being uncertain which Route the Army would take, whether by the Road of Ugein and Indoore, or through the Toll Bopall Country, which lies upon the Nerbudda, to the Eastward of the two former, and is the Road generally taken by the Pattamars, he had, in order to provide as much as possible for our Troops having an unmolested March, written to the Nabob of that Country, and had been assured by his Vackel at Poona, that there was not the least Doubt of the Nabob readily complying with his Request.

We have acquainted Colonel Leslie with our Proceedings respecting the Passports, and directed Mr. Mostyn to communicate constantly with him. We have also, with a further View of expediting his March, directed Colonel Leslie to correspond with Mr. Mostyn, and shall ourselves give him every Intelligence and Advice that can be of Service.

We beg Leave to suggest to you, that if on any future Occasion it should be necessary to supply us with a Reinforcement of Troops, the easiest and best Method would be to send Troops hither directly from Madras, which can be replaced from your Establishment if necessary.

Mr. Mostyn has been instructed to obtain, if possible, a Copy of the Engagement entered into by Nana Furnete with the Chevalier St. Lubin, and a Knowledge of the Measures which may have been taken for its Execution. The Intelligence transmitted in our last Letter, adds much Strength to our Suspicions, that a Grant has been given or promised them for the Port of Choul.

The Route by Mazulipatam appearing to be the most expeditious for the Conveyance of Advices, we beg Leave to recommend to you to transmit your original Letters through that City.

Bombay Castle,
20th May 1778.

We are, &c. &c.
(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

N° 66.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 29th June 1778.

Received the following Letter from Mr. Moffyn :

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

My last Respecte waited on you under the 12th Instant. On the 13th I received an Answer to the Letter. I therein informei you I had written to Moraba, on the Subject of Passports for the Troops you are tending to Bombay, telling me, that as these Troops are coming on Account of the French, he had sent for Monsieur St. Lubin, in order to dispatch him; after which he says, there was no Necessity for the Troops continuing their March, or for his granting Dutucks. Although this Letter is no direct Reply to my Request, I could not but consider it as a Refusal; however, to avoid if possible all future Altercation on this Business, I thought it my Duty to write Moraba a Second Letter, desiring he would re-consider the Matter, and again declaring him answerable for any ill Consequences which might ensue from his Refusal; telling him, as the Troops had undoubtedly begun their March, I had not Authority to countermand them, nor would the Want of Passports stop their Proceedings. To this I received Moraba's Answer on the 16th, referring me to his last.

Finding from Moraba's Answer that there was no Prospect of obtaining Passports from the Durbar, and as the March of our Troops may probably lay through Madjee and Tookajee Holkar's Countries, I embraced the Opportunity of a Person I could trust going to Scindy, to write him a Letter, requesting he would favour me with Orders to his Officers for our Forces having a free Passage through Ugein, as well as their being supplied with a friendly Buzar; and that no Time might be lost in conveying them, I enclosed Scindy a Letter to the commanding Officer of our Troops, which I requested he would forward with the above Orders. I did intend to have made a like Application to Holkar as soon as I could find a proper Channel through which to apply to him, being apprehensive a direct Application might have given Offence to this Durbar; however my Superiors having lately directed me to make immedieate Application both to Scindy and Holkar for Passports, I wrote the latter under the 24th Instant, and am in hourly Expectation of receiving Answers from each: It being uncertain which Route our Troops will take, whether by the Road of Ugein, Indoor, or through the Toll Bhopall Country, which lays upon the Nerbuddah to the Eastward of the Two former, and is the Road our Pattamars generally take; to provide therefore as much as possible for our Troops having an unmolested March, I have written a Letter to the Nabob of that Place, which I prevailed on his Vaceel here to forward with one from himself, requesting, in case they take that Route, he will grant them a free Passage, and afford them every Assistance in his Power; which the Vaceel assures me, he makes no doubt his Master will readily comply with.

On the 13th Monsieur St. Lubin went to Camp, and the next Day had a Meeting with Moraba, who then told him, that as the English had taken amiss his staying here so long, it was necessary he should go away for a Time; but that he might depend this should not occasion any Difference in the Friendship between the French and this Government. On the 17th in the Afternoon, Morabah, Buchabah, Chintoo Wittul, and Crustrow Belol, paid Monsieur St. Lubin a Visit at his Tent; and after staying with him about Half an Hour returned to Morabah's Tent, whither Monsieur St. Lubin followed them shortly after, and staid with them some Hours. Morabah then made him a Present, and dispatched him. On the 20th Nanah came down from the Fort, where he has resided some Time past, to pay a Visit to Sacarum Bapoo at Bury, when they sent for Monsieur St. Lubin, in order to take Leave; and he accordingly waited on them: Notwithstanding these Appearances of Monsieur St. Lubin being dispatched, it is beyond a Doubt with me, that he has no real Intentions of leaving Poona, or at least if he does, that he will speedily return; and that the Durbar are in Hopes, by publickly dispatching him, to lull us into a Belief of their good Intentions, whilst they have Recourse to the French for Assistance, a Poor for which has already been opened by Monsieur St. Lubin's Negotiations with Nanah, and which have been lately taken up by Morabah, as your Honour, &c. will please to observe by the enclosed Copy and Translate of a Letter I have received from a Person at Camp, who, from the Knowledge I have of him, I do not think would deceive me: The Intelligence contained in this Letter of Morabah's Transactions with Monsieur St. Lubin, has been since confirmed by Two Persons, whose Employes in the Government Service are such as to afford them frequent Opportunities of knowing what passes.

Conformable to my Superiors Orders I shall deliver a Remonstrance to the Durbar on the Subject of the French, and make a Demand for the immediate Compliance of the Treaty of Proondur, as soon as they can be properly translated into the Maratta Language. I have already acquainted you, Gentlemen, that I am assured the French have not got a Grant for the Port of Choul; but by the Report of Mr. Lewis's Proceedings at Camp, forwarded in my Addreis of the 12th, it appears, that Crustrow Belol confessed before him at the Durbar, a Promise therof had been made Monsieur St. Lubin; and I am convinced the French will not only set that, but much more, the Moment the French can afford the promised Assistance. Although I have hitherto failed in my Endeavours to obtain a Copy of the Engagements entered into between Nanah Eurooz and Monsieur St. Lubin,

A P P E N D I X, N° 65 and 66.

I have lately been fortunate enough to procure the enclosed Copies of some Letters written by the latter to the Viceroy of Goa and the Governor of Damauñ, which prove, that he had made some Agreements of the Kind. I am not acquainted with any Steps having been taken by the Durbar for the carrying this Scheme into Execution, excepting Monsieur St. Lubin being permitted to remain here, in direct Violation of the most solemn Assurances to us that he should be sent away, and the present Conduct of the Durbar.

On the 27th I received a Note from a Person at Camp, informing me, that in consequence of the Troops coming from Bengal, and a Report of Hyder's Army marching this Way, the Durbar had determined on sending Chintoo Wittul and Gopal Naique Tumbuckur to meet me, and request I would proceed to Bombay. They accordingly visited me Yesterday, and informed me they were sent purposely to request I would accompany the former on the Busines the Durbar had already spoken to me about. I replied, that I did not see any Necessity for my going, unless the Durbar would explain themselves, which was now become the more necessary from the evasive Manner they had hitherto acted in this Affair. To this they gave me the same Answer the Durbar had before done, that it was to assure Ragoba they were his sincere Friends. I immediately replied, that I considered their present Request as a mere Finesse, intended only to stop the March of the Troops we expected from Bengal, and to gain Time; for had they been sincere, the Durbar would long since have ill patched me on this Busines, and sent Monsieur St. Lubin away, but that I was convinced, from the extraordinary Attention Morabah and the Durbar had paid him, the former had taken up Nanali's Plan, and entered into some Engagements with the French. This they positively denied, though they acknowledged Monsieur St. Lubin had made a Tender thereof to Morabah, who told him, that as long as this Government continued in Friendship with the English they would not enter into an Alliance with any other European Nation, and that Morabah had absolutely dispatched him. I told them, that I considered his being publicly dispatched as done with a View to blind us, and perhaps some others; but that I was possessed of what I deemed a sufficient Proof of my Allegation, producing the enclosed Copy of a Letter written by Monsieur St. Lubin to the Viceroy of Goa, under the 26th April, which I had a few Hours before luckily procured. They answered, it was very possible Monsieur St. Lubin might have written in that Manner; but they said, they defied me to produce any Writing from the Durbar: Upon which I observed, that it was the Art of this Durbar not to give any thing under their Hands, that they might have an Opportunity of denying their own Words. It was therefore for this Reason, before I would give Credit to Monsieur St. Lubin being finally dispatched, or my Promise to accompany Chintoo Wittul to Bombay, that I insisted on the Durbar giving me a Writing, with their Sicca affixed, declaring they had not at present, nor would in future have, so long as they continued in Friendship with the English, any Treaty with the French, nor suffer them to trade in any of the Maratta Ports, being exactly conformable to the Promises made me by Sacaram Bapoo when I was dispatched by the Durbar to Bombay in August last: This they promised to deliver me, together with a Letter for the President, accounting for my being detained so long here; and requested I would send the Linguist with Tumbuckur to Camp to bring them. The Linguist accordingly set off this Morning; and if he returns in Time with the above Paper, I shall accompany Chintoo Wittul, who leaves Poona To-morrow, otherwise will follow him as soon as I receive the Paper.

From the Information contained in the Letter from Camp, mentioned in the foregoing Paragraph, it appears to me that this sudden Embassy has been set on foot in consequence of Hyder's Army advancing this Way since Hurry Punt's Retreat, and our Forces coming from Bengal, by which they judge we are determined to be no longer trifled with, and that they are in Hopes thereby to amuse us until the Rains set in, which will cause a Delay of Four or Five Months, by which Time, if ever, they suppose Monsieur St. Lubin can perform his Promises. That the Durbar have already shewn their Willingness to enter into Engagements with the French, highly prejudicial to our Honourable Employers Interest, all Accounts I have received agree; and though I do not imagine it will be in Monsieur St. Lubin's Power to comply fully with his Engagements, yet it is possible the French may be able to bring such a Force as to give them the superior Influence in this Durbar, the dangerous Consequences of which are too plain to need my pointing out.

Madjee Scindy is come from Rimutpore to Javer, a Village within Eight Cofs of Proondur. You will already have perceived, Gentlemen, from Mr. Lewis's Report, that Holkar had been very urgent with Morabah to keep his Engagement for bringing Ragoba into Government; he still continues pressing Morabah on this Subject, in which, from the best Information I can procure, Scindy heartily concurs; and it appears to me that these Two Maratta Officers are by no Means satisfied with the present Conduct of the Durbar. Hurry Punt has been for some Time past near Pundapore.

Since writing the above I have received a Letter from Madjee Scindy, informing me that he has forwarded my Letter to the commanding Officer of our Troops, with an Order to his own Officers for their free Passage through his Country, and that he had forwarded another to me by one of his own Hircarrahs; the latter however is not yet come to Hand.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

Tho^o Mostyn.

Poona,
the 29th May 1778.

P. S. Since

A P P E N D I X, N° 65 and 66.

P. S, Since dispatching the Original of this Address, I have received the Passport from Madjee Scindy, which shall be immediately forwarded to Colonel Leslie.

(Signed) T' Mostyn.

Translate of a Letter from a Person at Proondur; dated the 21st Rabellaccr, and received the 19th May 1778.

At Noon I received your Note by Shahjee, and observed the Contents thereof. Morabah has had Two Councils regarding the French. He told Monsieur St. Lubin, that he had made an Agreement with Nanah to bring 2000 Europeans within Fifteen Months, which he has not yet complied with; but that if it is in his Power to fulfil that Engagement, Morabah desired he would send for them with Ammunition, so as to be here before the Battalions can arrive from Calcutta; which Monsieur St. Lubin has agreed to, and dispatched a Letter express to his Place.

The Contents of the Letter wrote by the Durbar to Bengal, are as follows: "Colonel Upton concluded a Treaty between our Two Governments; where then is the Necessity of your sending Troops into my Country? If it is on account of Monsieur St. Lubin remaining here, I have, in Consideration of our Friendship, dispatched him; and you may depend, I never will do any thing that shall injure you. The French brought Goods here to sell, which is the Reason of their staying so long; but he now intends to go away, and I have accordingly given him Leave: I therefore wish you would recall your Forces, and prevent a Breach in our Friendship. I hope you will pay no Attention to what the Bombay Gentlemen may have already written, or shall hereafter write you on this Subject. With respect to Ragoba, I have determined to bring him here; but as Hurry Punt is coming hither with a large Force, it is necessary he should be consulted on it; for should Ragoba be brought without his Concurrence, it will probably create some Disturbances. He will soon be here; and I shall satisfy the Troops that are with him; after which Ragoba shall be sent for. I desire you will write to the Bombay Gentlemen, not to make any Disturbances."

The following is the Contents of a Letter written by this Durbar to Europe: "There is Friendship subsisting between our Governments; besides, a Treaty was concluded with the Gentlemen of Bengal, of which you are acquainted, and with which I am complying. Notwithstanding this, the Bengal Gentlemen are sending their Forces in my Country, which will make a Difference in our Friendship. This is not right; I therefore hope you will send positive Orders, both to Bengal and Bombay, on this Subject."

The following is the Contents of a Letter from the Durbar to the Nabob: "The English are sending Forces from Bengal with bad Intentions: Should they make any Disturbances, I shall send for your Forces; and hope you will assist me with your Army. The English also intend to bring Ragoba by Force, which will cause a Dispute with them; therefore, in Consideration of our Friendship, it is necessary you should attend with your whole Army."

Monsieur St. Lubin is dispatched, and Morabah wants him to go away, in order to hasten the Troops he has promised; but he says, he will remain here, and send a Man with Letters for him. This they are at present considering about.

A true Copy of the Translate.
(Signed) T' Mostyn.

Minute of Mr. Francis.

It seems to me that the following Paragraph in the Letter from Bombay will require particular Consideration: "In this Place we think it our Duty to request to be informed what Measures you propose to pursue in case their Answer on this Occasion should not prove satisfactory, or their future Conduct should give no Reason for Apprehension; as our being furnished with timely Instructions may be of the utmost Importance;" and I wait to hear the Governor General's Sentiments upon it. There is another Part of the Letter in which I would beg Leave to propose a Paragraph in Reply: "We beg Leave to suggest to you, that if on any future Occasion it should be necessary to supply us with a Reinforcement of Troops, the easiest and best Method would be to send Troops hither directly from Madras, which can be replaced from your Establishment if necessary." On the 2d February I submitted my Opinion to the Board on this Point in the following Words: "Supposing it a Point determined by the Majority, that a Reinforcement of Troops should be sent to Bombay, I think it had better go from the Coast, and if necessary be replaced from hence, than directly from Bengal to Bombay; on this Principle, I yield to the Proposition." On the 23d February, I again urged this Opinion in the following Words: "If a Reinforcement must be sent to Bombay, I beg Leave to repeat my Opinion, that it may be spared with more Safety, and proceed with greater Expedition from Fort Saint George." I would now propose, that we should tell the Presidency of Bombay, that we are convinced of the Propriety of their Opinions in this Particular, and conformably to their Advice, if any future Occasion

A P P E N D I X, N° 65 and 66. N° 67.

casion should make it indispensably necessary to send them a Reinforcement of Troops, they shall be sent directly from Madras, and not from this Place. I do not mean this Motion to be taken into Consideration now, but defer it till the Answer to the Letter shall be proposed.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheeler.

A P P E N D I X, N° 67.

Bengal Secret Consultations, the 6th July 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheeler, } Esquires.

Colonel Leslie,
9th June.

READ the following Letter from Colonel Leslie :

Gentlemen,

In my former Letters I had the Honour to acquaint you, that I deemed the Possession of the Fort of Calpee necessary, both for securing my Communication with the Kora Province, and ensuring the Accomplishments of the Engagements the Maratta Chiefs of these Districts had entered into with me. With this View I solicited the Orders of the Officer commanding the temporary Brigade, that I might employ such Part of the Battalion of Sepoys, commanded by Captain Rawsterne, which was stationed in the Neighbourhood of Toonga, as this Service might require. He accordingly put Captain Rawsterne under my Command, and I have directed that Officer to take post at Kalpee, with such Part of his Battalion as are not required with the Aumil, and to wait there my further Orders. I shall detain him there no longer than I may conceive the Possession of the Fort necessary to the Service of the Expedition; and I hope to receive your Concurrence to this Measure.

I am sorry to inform you of the Demise of Captain James Crawford, who commanded the 4th Battalion of Sepoys, who expired suddenly, the 3d Instant, of a violent Fever. His Character and Abilities as an Officer make him a severe Loss to the Service in general, and to this Expedition in particular.

I have the Honour, &c. &c.

(Signed) Matt^w Leslie.

Head Quarters, Jelallpore,
9th June 1778.

The Governor General—As it appears from the Postscript of a duplicate Letter received from Mr. Moslyn, that he had “received the Passport from Madajee Scindia, which should be immediately forwarded to Colonel Leslie,” and as it is possible that Colonel Leslie may chuse the Route of Malva, which appertains to the Jagheers of Madajee Scindia and Tuckajee Holkar, I must beg Leave to move, that positive Orders be sent to Colonel Leslie, to march through the Province of Berar, and on no Account to take any other Road, unless he shall receive a direct and express Refusal from Moodajee Boosla, the Chief of Berar, to admit the Detachment within his Territories. As that Chief may be more safely trusted than any other Power, lying between this and the other Side of India, on account of the long and friendly Intercourse which has subsisted between his Family and this Government, and the Detachment will continue during a considerable Part of its Progress, within the Reach of our Orders for its Removal in case of Necessity, by its Line of March in that Route inclining to the Borders of Bengal, until it shall have reached the Center of Berar; but if it should have proceeded by the Way of Malva it may be difficult to recall it before it shall have marched too far; this will be better understood by an Inspection of the Map than by Words: As an additional Motive for this Proposition, it is to be observed, that on the first Application to Moodajee Boosla, for Permission to the Army to march through his Country, he not only expressed an instant Compliance, but wrote Letters immediately to Colonel Leslie inviting him to come by the Way of his Country, and sent a Person

A P P E N D I X, N° 67, 68.

erson of Consequence with a Military Escort to the Banks of the Nurbudda, which are the Borders of his Dominions, to receive and conduct the Detachment. With Madajee Scinda this Government had no Connection, and he has been always represented as a Partizan of Nana Farnec, which may render his Offers suspicious, although I have lately received a Letter from him, being the First that he has written to me since I have been in this Government, containing Protections and Overtures of Friendship.

Agreed to the Governor General's Motion : And,
Resolved, That the following Letter be immediately written to Colonel Leslie.

To Colonel Leslie.

Sir,

By a Letter which we have just received from Mr. Mostyn, we understand that he has procured and transmitted to you a Passport for the Detachment under your Command, to proceed through the Dominions of Madajee Scinda : As it is possible that this Circumstance may have induced you to prefer the Route of Malva to that of Berar, we think it necessary to give you positive Injunctions to pursue your March through the Province of Berar, and by no Means to follow any other Road, unless you shall receive a direct and positive Refusal from Moodajee Boosla, the Chief of that District, to admit the Troops within his Territories, which, from the long and friendly Intercourse subsisting between us, and from the Intention of Compliance expressed in Letters from him, we cannot suppose will be the Case.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
6th July 1778.

Warren Hastings,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheeler.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 7th July 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheeler,

The Board think it proper, before they proceed any further in the Consideration of this Business, to annul the Letter to Colonel Leslie prepared Yesterday and now laid before them for Signature, and to direct him, on the Grounds of the Information now received, to proceed with the Detachment under his Command to Berar, a Country on his Road to Bombay, which is at the same Time contiguous to Bengal, and convenient for the Return of the Troops, if it should appear expedient to recall them for the Defence of the Provinces. The following Letters are therefore written to Colonel Leslie, and ordered to be dispatched to him this Evening by Express Pattamars.

A P P E N D I X, N° 68.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 9th July 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheeler,

THE Governor General delivers in the following Minute :

I state the War with France as a Fact of undoubted Certainty. It is the Part of this Government to consider in what Manner it is likely to affect the British Possessions in India, and to provide accordingly for their Security. This must comprise and limit all our Operations. In the View of this opening Scene, the relative Conditions of the Parties engaged in it will merit our first Attention, and cannot fail to engage it by the striking Contrast which appears between them ; and I mention

A P P E N D I X, N° 68.

tion it because I think it an essential Point in the Consideration of our first and perhaps our best Measures.

Great as the Power is which the British Nation has acquired in India, compared with that of Rival, its general Line of Action is and must be purely defensive : It can gain, the French will lose. Even the Capture of Pondicherry, and of the other Possessions of the French, will yield positive Advantage to the English, altho' it will deprive the French of their Instruments of Attack, and thereby effect our own Safety.

From this Point therefore all our Conclusions must originate, and all our Measures be so laid as to obviate or to oppose the probable Designs of our Enemies. Their first Attempts will be against Bombay or Fort Saint George ; Bengal will be their last, at least their distant Object.

The Presidency of Fort Saint George possesses in itself the complete Means of Defence : We can add nothing to them but in the Fields of our political Arrangements : We have already given it a Large Supply of Treasure : It requires no other present Aid.

Bombay requires every Thing. Weak in itself and intangled rather than strengthened by its disputed Possessions on the Continent, it can only defend itself against a direct Invasion, and to that is perhaps equal if it has to contend with the French alone ; but this is unlikely. The last Advice from Poona contains such Evidence as the Event itself must soon refute or realize, of an Engagement actually made by the French Minister there, to bring a large Military Force to Poona, probably designed to act with that Government against Ragoba, who at that Time resided at Bombay under the English Protection.

In effect this is the obvious Policy which the French ought to adopt if they seek to regain their Influence in India, and it is no longer to be doubted that they have adopted it. They have besides an ancient Claim to the Alliance of Nizam Ally, which besides is ensured by their accidental Union in a common Cause, the Defence of the ruling Administration at Poona ; of which his Letters to Mr. Rumbold and the Nabob of Arcot afford an undoubted Proof.

It is then certain that the French mean to establish a firm Interest at Poona. It is probable that they will effect it. The Consequences may be the Attack of Bombay, or without it the Re-union of the vast Powers of the Maratta State under its present Government, strengthened by so formidable an Alliance and a predatory War, brought by their united Forces into the Dominions of our Ally the Nabob of Owde, or even into the Heart of our own.

To guard against such Consequences ought, in my Opinion, to be our first Object, both for the immediate Defence of Bombay, and the future Security of Bengal. We cannot lend Success directly to Bombay. If Bombay should be attacked by the French, unsupported by a Maratta Alliance, I have already said, that I hope its present Force is equal to its Defence ; but if it should be attacked, or in certain Danger of being attacked by the French and Marattas in Alliance, an offensive War must be undertaken in Defence of Bombay.

The Detachment under Colonel Leslie may be employed in this Service. It can be spared without Danger to Bengal, which is secure from a present Invasion, and can soon be replaced ; but it consists of a Force too inconsiderable to engage singly in such a Contest, unless it can be assisted by an Ally equal in Power, or so nearly equal to that of the Peshwa, as to give our united Strength a Degree of Superiority over the Combination to which it would be opposed ; the Undertaking would be too hazardous. Moodajee Boosla, the Chief of Berar, answers to this Description. His Family has always borne a considerable Rank among the Powers of India. His Father, Rajgaro, subjugated the Provinces of Bengal to the Chout, under the Government of the most able Chiefs that ever ruled them. His elder Brother, Iannoagee, attacked and burnt the City of Poona, at a Time when the Power of the Peshwa far exceeded its present State, and the Maratta Confederacy, excepting Berar, was undivided. His Dominions extend from the Sea Coast of Orissa, and from the Western Borders of Bengal to the Neighbourhood of Aurengabad. His Revenue, though not proportionate to their Magnitude, is considerable ; and his Standing Forces are numerous, exclusive of the Militia, which in all the Maratta States is always ready to join their regular Armies when they take the Field. While the Contest prevailed between Ragonaut Row and the Musilim Party, Moodajee sided with the former ; his Brother with the latter. This Conduct drew on him the Renunciation of the Musilims, who, as soon as they were freed by the Interposition of this Government from the Dread of their great Competitor, encouraged and supported the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn in an Invasion of his Country, which at that Time had not yet recovered from the Distractions occasioned by the Contention between the Two Brothers. On this Occasion he was glad to purchase a Peace of Nizam Ally Cawn, with the Loss of some Ports of Consequence, the Remembrance of which he still retains, with a Determination to avail himself of the first Opportunity to re-claim them.

As the Provinces which are now united under the Government of Berar, are a constitutional Part of the Maratta Empire, a natural Enmity must ever subsist between those who possess the Sovereign Authority, and the Rulers of Berar ; the former looking to the Recovery of their unalienable Rights, the latter jealous of their Independency : Thus Moodajee may be considered as the certain Enemy of the Peshwa into whatever Hands the fluctuating State of the Parties at Poona may throw his Administration ; but a late Event has given Moodajee Pretensions to a Rank even more elevated than that of the Peshwa. I need not inform this Board that the Power which the Peshwa's have possessed for about Forty Years past, is an Usurpation on the Sovereign Authority vested by the Constitution in the Rajah ; Raja Saboo, the last who retained it, having no Children, adopted Moodajee Boosla, and as

A P P E N D I X; N^o 68.

I am informed, designed him for his Successor; but Ballajee the Peshwa, or Prime Minister, had the Art to deprive Moodajee of the Benefit of this intention, and to transfer the Inheritance to Ram Raja, who was also an adopted Son of Raja Saboo, and an Infant at his Death. Ragoojee, the Father of Moodajee, instantly marched to Poona with a formidable Army, and by a Negotiation of a Day obtained, for a Surrender of his Son's actual Pretensions, a large Accession of Territory, and other Advantages, still reserving a future Claim to the Rajaship, and refusing to commit himself by any formal Deed in an Acknowledgment of the Title of Ram Raja. From that Time the Grandeur of his Family may be dated. Ragoojee continued to authenticate all his public Acts by the Name of Saboo Raja, and on the Seals which have been affixed to all the Letters which I have received from Shabajee Boosla, and even since his Death from his Brother Moodajee, they are stiled the Vassals of Saboo Rajah. I know not with Certainty what are Moodajee's present Views. Ram Raja died in December last, and the Succession is either still vacant, or but lately filled; Moodajee's Rights are still in Force, and unquestionably superior to any other.

I must suspend the Thread of this Narrative to relate a Transaction which brings it nearer to the Concerns of this Government. An Alliance with the Boosla Family has been long its Object, and considerable Advances were made to the Attainment of it in the Administration of Lord Clive. In the latter End of the Year 1773 Shabajee Boosla sent a Vackel to me with Letters, containing general Professions of Attachment, but expressed with such Warmth as induced me to aim at a formal Connection with him. Finding the Vackel an intelligent Man, I sent him back furnished with a Plan for that Purpose. Unfortunately, Shabajee fell by the Hands of his Brother a little before the Vackel's Return, and the Negotiation dropped; but Moodajee himself soon after adopting his Brother's Line, again deputed the same Vackel to Calcutta; but many Causes, which it is unnecessary to enunciate, prevented me from improving the Disposition of this Chief. A constant Inter-course of Letters, and in some Degree confidential, has been kept up between us. On a Late Rumour of the Death of Ramraja, foreseeing the Use which might be made of this new Division in the Maratta Policy, I employed the Agency of the Vackel to excite the Ambition of Moodajee to aspire to the sovereign Authority; which such an Event, then probable at least, from the infirm State of the Raja, and the Distractions at Poona, seemed to present to him, and I intimated the same Advice in a Letter which I wrote at the same Time to Dewangur Pundit, the Minister of Moodajee Boosla, and the Man whose Counsels have long guided the Affairs of that Government. While these Letters were on their Way the Raja died. No Answers were given, for the Porport required none; but every Letter since received from Moodajee and his Dewan has repeatedly and urgently pressed the Dismissal of the Vackel, for the Purpose, as expressed, of communicating with him on some Affairs of the greatest Importance. The Vackel is at this Time with Colonel Leslie.

From these Facts, it will appear that Moodajee Boosla is by Interest and Inclination likely to join in an Alliance with this Government, and that Two Advantages may be offered to him as the Inducements to it. The First is the Support of his Pretensions to the sovereign Power, the Second, the Recovery of the Captures made on his Dominions by Nizam Ally. On our Parts, we shall possess a powerful Barrier on our Frontier, an Alliance which may counterbalance, and if properly employed, may totally overthrow the present Power of the Maratta State, and give us a lasting Ascendant in its Operations, and for ever dissipate all the Designs which the French have at this Time so wily and hitherto successfully concerted for their Aggrandizement and our Destruction. A more fortunate Concurrence of Circumstances could scarcely have been conceived than those which appear of themselves to draw the Two States of Berar and Bengal into a decided and lasting Union by the powerful Bonds of common Interest and common Danger. The Poona Government is the natural Enemy of Moodajee. It is ours by their Connection with our natural and declared Enemy the French. Nizam Ally for the same Reason is the decided Adversary of both; and the Contiguity of our respective Territories in the wildest and least valuable Parts of both, and of course the least subject to Competition and Incroachment, renders their Union important and essential to the Strength of both.

On these Grounds I recommend that a Company's Civil Servant be immediately deputed to Moodajee Boosla with full Powers to form a Treaty of Alliance between that Chief and the Company on the Terms herein above stated. These may be hereafter detailed in his Instructions.

The Governor General—It was my Intention, had the Time permitted it, to have extended the above Minute into other Details, immediately required for the internal Defence of these Provinces. I can now only state those which are most urgent in short Propositions. The Reasons, if necessary, may be given separately.

First, I propose that Three additional Battalions of Sepoys be immediately formed upon the Plan recommended by General Subbert.

Secondly, That Raja Cheyt Sing be required in Form to contribute his Share of the Burthen of the present War, by consenting to the Establishment of Three regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be raised and maintained at his Expence.

Thirdly, That the Militia Corps be re-established for the Defence of the City of Calcutta; and for this Purpose, if it shall be found necessary hereafter, I would further recommend, that the Commissioner of Law Suits, with the Assistance of the Company's Attorney and Standing Council, be instructed to prepare a Bill for its legal Incorporation.

Fourthly, That the Master Attendant be directed to consult some of the most able Seamen of this Port upon the Means of forming such an Addition to our Marine Establishment as may be most effectual for the Communication of immediate Intelligence of the Approach of an Enemy's Fleet or

A P P E N D I X, N° 68.

Single Ship of War, and for cutting away the Buoys, and using such other Precautions as may be necessary for guarding this Port and its Commerce against the Effects of a Surprise.

Fifthly, That the Opinion of the Chief Engineer be also taken with respect to the other Means which may be necessary to prevent or impede the Progress of an Enemy by the Entrance of the River.

Sixthly, That the Commander in Chief be requested to furnish the Board with such a general Plan of Defence as he shall judge necessary, in Addition to the present Disposition of our Army, and in the Supposition that the Detachment now employed under Colonel Leslie may not return for a Length of Time into the Provinces; and to attend the Board with it when prepared.

Seventhly, The Propositions with which I shall now conclude I offer with much Diffidence and Hesitation: it has been the constant Subject of my Thoughts since our last Meeting; and though now inclined to recommend it, I see the Objections to it in a strong Light, as added perhaps to those which may be suggested by other Members of the Board may induce me to change it; but I will briefly state it. The War having been notified to us, though not by Authority, yet confirmed by Evidence of such Strength as to amount to a Degree of Certainty next to absolute, shall we proceed upon it as upon the Grounds of a War declared and notified in all its Forms? or shall we wait the Confirmation of it, which it is probable we may not receive for this Month or Six Weeks yet to come? The Consequence of our Determination on this Question, if in the Affirmative, will be instantly to detach a Military Force to guard the Approaches of Chandernagore, to demand the Surrender of that Town, and to appoint Commissioners to take Possession of the public Stores, Shipping, and private Effects of the Inhabitants. This combined Question I propose for the Determination of the Board.

The First Question being considered is agreed to. Ordered, That the Secretary to the Military Department do prepare and lay before the Board an Estimate of the Expence of the above Augmentation, and of that which will arise from the Increase of Men to the present Establishment lately ordered in the Military Department.

The Second Question considered.

Mr. Francis—On the Supposition that the Detachment now employed under Colonel Leslie will not return for a Length of Time into the Provinces, I acquiesce in the Proposal relative to Raja Cheyt Sing; but I think he should be informed, that this additional Charge will not be imposed on him beyond the Continuance of the present War.

The Governor General—The Qualification proposed by Mr. Francis, is consonant to my Intent in the Question, and is implied in it; I should have no Objection to its being expressed in an additional Clause: That our Resolution upon this Subject may be unanimous, I agreed to add to the Question the following Words, “and to be disbanded at the End of the War;” but perceiving that the Discrepancy in our Opinions upon the Subject arises not from a Disagreement respecting the Requisition simply considered by itself, but from a different Understanding of the Right of the Company, to exact under any Pressure of Affairs more than the Sum stipulated by the Sunnud granted to Raja Cheyt Sing, and the Pubbleat given by him in Return, I must adhere to the Question as it stands, wishing to avoid the Question of Right; if however we cannot agree upon this Point, still I would wish to have the Requisition made in the Words of the Question, and leave the Decision of future Right to our Subjects.

Mr. Wheeler—Wishing to avoid the Question of Right, I acquiesce in the Motion; but I think it should be qualified in the Manner proposed by Mr. Francis.

Mr. Bailevill—An Acquisition of Revenue and Military Force I suppose to have been annexed to the Grant of the Zemindarry of Benares and Gauzapore to the Company; any Military Establishment, independant of the English Administration, in the Heart of the Company's Dominions, may, in the Time of Danger, be turned against those Interests which under another Policy it would protect. I have long regarded the Military Establishment of Benares under the Rajah's native Officers, and not subject to the Discipline, Command, and Regulation, of our own Battalions, as a Defect: I therefore most heartily agree to the present Proposal for Three disciplined Battalions to be kept up, and paid by, the Rajah; and sincerely hope the Company will direct, that the whole Force of Benares and Gauzapore under the Zemindar be placed upon the same Footing as the regular Military Force of the Presidency.

The Governor General—I agree to the Question in the original Terms of it, deeming it a Right inherent in every Government to impose such Assessments as it judges expedient for the common Service and Protection of all its Subjects, and we are not precluded from it by any Agreement subsisting between the Raja and this Government.

Resolved, That Raja Cheyt Sing be required in Form to contribute his Share of the Burthen of the present War, by the Establishment of Three regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be raised and maintained at his Expence; and the Governor General is requested to write to him to that Effect.

The Board agree to the Third Question.

To the Fourth agreed. Orders are accordingly issued by the Secretary.

Agreed to the Fifth.

To the Sixth agreed.

A P P E N D I X, N° 69.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 11th July 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell, }
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler, }

M^R. Francis—In Addition to the Resolutions already taken, and in Reply to the Governor General's Motion introduced Yesterday, I shall state my Opinion of the farther Measures which we ought to pursue in the present Juncture, as briefly and as clearly as possible; declaring at the same Time that I do not mean either to support my own Opinion, or to oppose that of any other Member, by a Controversy, which at this Time can have no good Effect.

1st. I am unalterably of Opinion that the Detachment under Colonel Leslie should be immediately recalled within the Provinces, because I think that the Security of Bengal is the first and most essential of all Objects to this Government: As such the Company have invariably considered it. I will quote one Passage, out of a Multitude that might be found in the Letters from the Court of Directors, to shew how strongly they have inculcated this Object, and made it the Basis of their whole political System in India. In a Letter to Fort Saint George, dated the 17th March 1769, they say, “The Preservation of our present Influence in the Bengal Provinces is the great Object of our Attention. All political Connections in the rest of India are only important as they may affect us there.

“ Every Acquisition of Influence or Possession elsewhere, which by dividing our Troops may prevent the Exertion of our whole Force, in case we should be attacked in that Quarter, is hazarding a Substance for a Shadow.”

Admitting a Supposition, that the first Attempts of the French may be made in another Part of India, which can only be Matter of Conjecture, still I think we are bound, by every Rule of Policy and Prudence, to make our principal Preparations of Defence in that Quarter where our most essential Interests are at stake. Considering the extensive Frontier we have now to guard, I cannot think that Bengal is in a State of Defence, much less of Security, while the Force under Colonel Leslie is engaged in any distant Operations.

2d. I think the Presidency of Bombay should be directed to make some Concessions to the Ministerial Party at Poona, and to endeavour to come to an Accommodation with them as soon as possible. If we were to relinquish every one of the Points which have been in Dispute between us since the Conclusion of the Treaty, we should neither give up any Thing that originally belonged to us, nor indeed any Thing that is worth our keeping. Territorial Acquisitions on that Side of India, are inconsistent with the Company's true Interest, and no less contrary to their avowed fundamental Policy. When we see that even their favourite Acquisition of Salsette is attended with an Annual Loss of 1,40,849 Rupees; that is, that the Expences of maintaining the different Establishments there exceed the Revenues of the Island by so great a Sum; we ought, I think, to be deterred by this decisive Experiment from wishing to gain more in that Part of India, or even to keep a great Part of what we have gained.

By pursuing even now a Plan of Moderation with the Marattas, we shall probably take the most effectual Course for defeating the Designs of the French, and inducing the Marattas to relinquish any Engagements they may have formed with them. To introduce a European Army, either French or English, into their Country, can never be a Measure of Choice with the Poona Government, much less can they be urged by any thing but Necessity to make their Country the Seat of War.

At the same Time that we send these Instructions to Bombay, I think that at all Events it might be advisable to send them a Reinforcement of Two or Three Battalions of Sepoys, but they should go from Madras, and be replaced from hence if necessary. The whole Force of Bombay, in my Opinion, should be employed upon a defensive Plan only, to which with the above Reinforcement it will be adequate; that is, to the Defence of Bombay, Salsette, and the Islands and Posts immediately adjacent; for as to the Acquisitions of Territory made by the late Treaty, in the supposed Case of their being attacked by the united Force of the French and of the Marattas, I would not think of defending them. For this Opinion I cannot assign a stronger Reason than that with which the Governor's Minute furnishes me; viz. that “Bombay is weak in itself, and entangled rather than strengthened by its dissipated Possessions on the Continent, and that it can only defend itself against a direct Invasion.”

3d. If by undertaking an offensive War in Defence of Bombay it be meant to continue the March of Colonel Leslie's Detachment from our Frontier to Poona, I am entirely against it. I need not

A P P E N D I X, N° 69.

repeat the Reasons I have so often urged for this Opinion, but I will state one which has not yet been mentioned : Admitting that the French may have intended to begin their Operations on the Malabar Coast, it is not unlikely that, when they shall have heard of our having stripped Bengal of so considerable a Part of its Defence, they may suddenly turn their Views this Way : At all Events I do not think that Detachment can be spared without Danger to Bengal.

If a Treaty of Peace and Alliance can be formed with Moodjee Boosla, on the usual Terms, & having the same Friends and the same Enemies (which we may interpret and use hereafter as we think fit) some Advantage may be made of it ; but I cannot think that his Friendship, or that of any Maratta Chief, is worth purchasing at the Expence of such Engagements as are proposed to be offered to him ; viz. "to support his Pretensions to this sovereign Power of the Maratta State, and the Recovery of the Captures made on his Dominions by Nizam Ally." I know not whether such Engagements may lead the Company's Arms, or how long they may implicate us in the political Contests of the Country Powers. Our general Line of Action is and must be purely defensive : The Instructions we have given to the Presidency of Fort Saint George to cultivate the Friendship of Hyder Ally are formed on this Principle, and it makes Part of the Company's fundamental Policy, repeatedly inculcated in their Instructions to their Servants, to avoid becoming Parties in any Disputes between the Powers of India. On One particular Occasion they have gone so far as to say, "that this Rage for Negotiations, Treaties, and Alliances, has private Advantage more for its Objects than the Public Good." This Remark is not meant to be applied to the Proposal before us, but it shews the general Sense the Company entertain of Treaties and Alliances with the Country Powers.

(Signed) P. F.

The Governor General—I should be very unwilling to answer the above Minute under the painful Impression which it has laid upon my Mind, and indeed I hope it will be altogether unnecessary, as it consists (excepting one distinct Proposition) of Points of mere Controversy, upon which every thing has already been said that can be laid on both Sides of the Question ; and it is yet my sincere and anxious Hope, that whatever Differences of Opinion may subsist on Subjects long agitated, or which may not respect the new State of our Affairs, our Resolutions respecting every Measure for the Defence of the national Possessions in India may be unanimous, and our Measures possess that Degree of Vigour and Consistency, which they can only derive from a cordial, a temperate, and a confidential Communication of Opinions. One single Observation I shall make upon Mr. Francis's Minute, because it applies to the essential Part of his Objections ; namely, That the Measure which I have proposed is formed on Grounds purely defensive : Though it should lead to offensive Operations, its Objects are the immediate Preservation of Bengal, and the Protection of these the most valuable Parts of the British Possessions in India from an Invasion not very distant, if we confine all our Operations within the Boundaries of our Dominions and of our Ally the Nabob of Owde. There is One Proposition contained in Mr. Francis's Minute which will merit the Consideration of the Board, and although I fear that it is too late, since the Engagements between the Administration at Poona and the French Minister have been carried to too great Lengths to admit of their retracting on either Side, it may yet be given in Instruction to the Presidency of Bombay, but it ought not to be the Motive for a Suspension of any single Measure which will be necessary for the Support of the general Interests of the Company committed to our Charge, on the Supposition that these Engagements have already taken place. I beg Leave to add One more Observation, suggested by Mr. Francis's Minute, and encouraged by the candid Declaration with which it is introduced. It is undoubtedly the Duty of every Member of this Board to contribute his Sentiments on all Affairs, but more especially on such as those at present under our Consideration ; but I presume to offer it as my Opinion, that it is equally the Duty of every Member of the Board to afford his utmost Assistance to the Execution and Success of every Measure that has ever been adopted, although originally passed against his Judgment, and to prosecute it with the same Ardour as if it had received his primary Concurrence. I hope it is needless to pursue this Subject : I will leave Mr. Francis the Advantage of an undisputed Ground in the many Objections forcibly stated in his Minute, rather than contribute to disturb the Temper of our Councils by a Debate which can produce no good Effect but that of personal Vindication.

Now give me Leave to recall the Attention of the Board to the Subject regularly before it. The Question in brief is, Shall Negotiations be undertaken for a Treaty of Alliance with the Rajah of Berar ? An Affirmative or Negative is all that is now necessary. The Conditions of this Alliance will be the proper Subject of a future Debate, and will be contained in the Instructions to be given to the Person who will be employed in the Commission for conducting the Negotiation. I shall prepare them without Delay.

Mr. Wheler—I think it absolutely necessary, before I give my Affirmative or Negative, that I should know the Extent and Nature of the Treaty, which the Governor General proposes to form with the Rajah of Berar, and I am the more desirous of an Explanation on this Head from the Question being now stripped of that Introduction which preceded it in the Governor's former Motion, and which I fear I cannot assent to.

Mr. Francis—I agree with Mr. Wheler.

Mr. Barwell—I agree to the Proposition. When the Objects of the Treaty come under Consideration,

A P P E N D I X, N° 69, 70.

Meration, I shall give my Affirmative only to such Points as may be advantageous and useful to this Government.

Resolved, that Negotiations be undertaken for a Treaty of Alliance with Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar.

The Governor General—I beg Leave to recommend Mr. Alexander Kynynnround Elliott to be employed on this Commission. Independantly of the personal Confidence of which from long Experience I think him worthy, I have made choice of Mr. Elliott for this Service, on account of his intimate Knowledge of the political State of this Government, in relation to the other Powers of the Country; having given him, under the prescribed Oath of Secrecy, an early and continued Access to the Official Records of this Department, and employed him in an especial Manner in all my Communications with the Government of Berar, since his Return to Bengal. I flatter myself that his general Abilities, and the Qualifications which he possesses for a Trust of this Kind, will not need my Recommendation of him to the Members of this Board.

Resolved, that Mr. Elliott be accordingly appointed the Minister and public Agent of this Government at the Court of Moodajee Boosla, Rajah of Berar, for the Purpose of negotiating a Treaty of Alliance with that Chief.

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

Bengal Secret Consultations, the 18th July 1778.

. THE Governor General lays before the Board Instructions for Mr. Elliott, which are as follow; viz.

Copy of Instructions to Mr. Alexander K. Elliott.

We hereby appoint you our Agent and Minister, and invest you with full Powers to negotiate and to conclude a Treaty with Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar, or the Rajah for the Time being; and that you may be completely enabled to accomplish our Intentions in this Commission, we give you the following Instructions, leaving it to your Discretion to effect them in any Mode which your Judgment, formed on the actual State of that Government, and the Intelligence which you shall receive concerning the neighbouring States, and from the Presidency of Bombay, shall suggest; and to agree to such other Conditions as are not expressed in these Instructions, but shall be conformable to their general Tenor, or not contrary to them; and you are to observe this Distinction in the Articles of Agreement which you shall conclude with the Rajah of Berar; viz. That although all are to be, and we hereby declare that they shall be, immediately binding on this Government, and on every other of the Company's Presidencies, yet such as are in their Nature permanent must be referred to us for their Confirmation; but such as are intended for present or temporary Purposes, are to be carried into Execution without waiting for our Sanction, and shall be equally binding as if they had received our specific Ratification.

First, It is our first Desire to establish a perpetual Alliance with the Government of Berar on the Terms of mutual Defence: To accomplish such a Connection, it must be constituted on Principles of mutual Interest and mutual Confidence; these Principles you must make the Ground-work of your Negotiation in every Part and Stage of it, taking especial Care that the Demand for our Assistance, and its Duration, shall be optional in the Ruler of Berar; that it may be instantly yielded, and that the Provision made for it be so guarded as to preclude the Dependents of this Government, to whose Conduct the Execution of this Part of the Treaty may be committed, from acquiring an undue Influence, or exercising any Kind of Authority in the Countries belonging to our Ally.

On the Principles thus premised the following Stipulations may be formed:

1st. That there shall be a perpetual Alliance of Friendship between the English East India Company and the Rajah of Berar and his Successors, each Party solemnly engaging to regard the Friends of the one as the Friends of the other, and the Enemies of the one as the Enemies of the other; and that this Condition shall subsist independantly of all others in this Treaty:

2d. That a certain Force, consisting of Battalions of Sepoys, to which may be added a Corps of Native Artillery, be stationed in some convenient Place within our own Frontier, and in the Neighbourhood of his, to be always ready for instant Motion on a Requisition in Writing from him, and for any Military Service which he may prescribe within the Line of his Dominions, but not to pass beyond it.

That for the Maintenance of this Corps a Monthly Subsidy be fixed, equal to their probable Expence; that is to say, for each Battalion of Sepoys in Quarters 10,000 Rupees per Month, and in the Field 13,000 Rupees; and for a Company of native Artillery in Quarters 4,000 Rupees, in

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

the Field 5,000 Rupees; that such regular and assured Funds shall be assigned for the Subsidy as may prevent future Disagreements on this Subject, and not leave it in his Power to withhold it.

That each Party shall be at Liberty to cancel this Engagement whenever it shall be judged inconvenient to their respective Interests, or incompatible with their Means, or to propose a Reduction of the Force, but not of the proportionate Rate of Subsidy for the Remainder, giving One Year's previous Notice.

3dly. That if at any Time it shall be necessary to require the Assistance of a Body of Cavalry for the Defence of Bengal, the Raja shall engage to afford the same within Two Months after the Request made to him for any Force not exceeding 10,000 Horse of the fixed Establishment of his Sircar; their Pay, Discipline, and internal Command to remain subject to their own Officers, but the general Command subject to the Officer commanding the English Forces acting in junction with them; their Pay to be defrayed by the Company at a stipulated Rate for each Rank, from the Day on which they shall enter the Borders of Bengal, until the Time requisite for their Departure from the same, estimated by daily Marches of Five Coss from the Day of their Dispatch. In the Clause respecting this Article, Care must be taken to distinguish the Cavalry of the Regular and pro-
Establishment from the Native Militia and Infantry of every Denomination; which must be totally excluded from composing any Part of the stipulated Aid; their Occupation, and all their Operations consisting solely in Plunder. Although this Article is proposed to complete the System of reciprocal Defence, yet if the Raja shall object to it, we do not regard it as an indispensable Clause, but you may make a Merit of receding from our Claim to it.

Such are our Ideas of the general Limitations which should be prescribed for a defensive Alliance, and we direct you to make them the Subject of your first Propositions, allowing you to change or qualify, or add to them, in any Manner which in the Course of your Negotiation you shall judge fitting; provided such Alterations be strictly consonant to the Principles which we have dictated as essential to it.

When you shall have mutually agreed on the Plan of proposed Treaty, you must transmit it to us for our Confirmation or Correction, according to the Definition which we have laid down in the introductory Part of these Instructions.

Second. But as it may be necessary to enter upon an immediate Train of active and offensive Operations with the Assistance of Moodajee Boosla, if it can be obtained, we shall proceed to give you such Instructions as may be proper for that Effect; first explaining the Object of our Views, and stating the Grounds of our Expectations from Moodajee Boosla.

By consecutive Intelligence received from the Presidency of Bombay, and from their Minister at the Court of Poona, it appears that the Chevalier St. Lubin, an Agent deputed from the Court of France, has entered into an Engagement with the ruling Members of the Maratta State, to bring a large European Force, and a Proportion of Military Stores to Poona, to be employed in their Service, or, as we may conclude, in promoting the reciprocal Advantages of the French and Maratta Nations.

War having been lately declared between Great Britain and France, it is not to be doubted, that the Presidency of Bombay will feel the first Effects of this Combination; the Capture of that Place by the French, and the Recovery of the Island of Salfette, and the Districts possessed by the Government of Bombay on the Continent, rendering such an Enterprize equally essential to the Interests and Views of both. We conceive also, that although such may be their immediate Design, and we are warned by the Court of Directors to expect, that the first Attempt of the French will be on Bombay, yet we believe, that the Principle of their Union looks to Designs of much greater Consequence, though yet remote, and may affect the Peace and Safety of these Provinces. An early Apprehension of these Effects induced us to authorize the President and Council of Bombay to carry into Execution a Plan which was proposed to them in the Month of December last, by a Party formed among the Principal Members of the Maratta Government, to exclude Nana Furness from the Chief Authority which he then possessed, and to restore Ragonaut Row to the Place which he formerly held in the Administration: And for the same Purpose, the Detachment under Colonel Leslie, which is now on its March towards Berar, was formed. The Design failed: A Change was effected by Means in which neither the Presidency of Bombay nor Ragonaut Row had any Share. Nana Furness was divested of Authority; but was soon afterwards re-admitted into the Administration, which has since consisted of Sacaram Babboo, Moraba Furness, and Nanah Furness. These Ministers appear to have been all united in the Resolution of opposing the Pretensions of Ragonaut Row. He has now no Party left among the Marattas with whose Aid he could venture to assert them; nor under any Circumstances could that Presidency now afford him their Assistance, without departing from the immediate Care of their own Safety. Thus deprived of the Resource on which we depended in the Partizans of Ragonaut Row, deeming it indispensably necessary to prevent, or to counteract the Designs which may have been projected by the Ministers and the French in their Alliance, and too hazardous to allow the Detachment to proceed on its first Destination without the Support of a Powerful Alliance; we are therefore desirous of joining our Forces and our Interests with those of Moodajee Boosla, for effecting that Purpose, or others more conducive to the Ends of it.

Our Reasons for giving this Preference to Moodajee Boosla, and our Expectations of finding him well disposed to enter heartily into our Views, are briefly these: His Dominions lie between Bengal and the Dependencies of the Pethwa, and border on both: A natural Jealousy has ever subsisted

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

subsisted between his Family and the Government of Poona. This has been heightened into a confirmed Animosity by Acts of mutual Violence. He has strong Pretensions, if not an absolute legal Right to the Succession of the Rauje or Sovereign Authority of the Maratta State, vacant by the Death of the late Ram Raja; and the Nabob Nizam Ally Cawn, who has always been connected with the French, and is now in close Union with the Ministers of Poona, is from his Situation the natural Enemy of the Government of Berar, and personally that of Moodajee.

Although we have no Doubts either of the Engagements which are said to exist between the Ministers of Poona and the Chevalier St. Lubin, or of the Inability of the Presidency of Bombay to engage in any new Undertaking for the Restoration of Ragonaut Row; yet these are Facts on which we wish you to obtain the most certain Knowledge, as you must be guided entirely by them in the Line of your Negotiations.

As there is a constant Intercourse between the Courts of Naugpore and Poona, you will not find it difficult to learn the actual State of Affairs at the latter; and that you may be less liable to Disappointment or Deception, we shall give Directions to Mr. Mostyn to keep up a constant Correspondence with you, and to inform you of the most secret Transactions of that Administration during your Continuance at Naugpore.

If from his Advices or the Information you can collect on the Spot, you are assured that the Presidency of Bombay have not entered into any new Engagements, either with Ragonaut Row or any other Party among the Marattas, which may clash with the Tenor of the following Instructions; if you shall at the same Time understand either that a French Force is actually arrived at Poona, or is expected, or that the Chevalier St. Lubin is still there; or if you are convinced from other Circumstances of the Existence of the Engagements which we suppose to have been formed between him and the Ministers, or even if no Circumstance shall have come to your Knowledge that may afford you Cause to doubt it; in these Cases we authorize you to make an Offer to Moodajee Boosla, to unite with him in a direct and open War with the Ministerial Party at Poona; and we give you a full and absolute Discretion to concert with him such a Plan for conducting the same as you shall judge most conducive to the Ends which we propose from it, and to which your whole Attention must be directed; namely, to defeat the Combination of the French and Marattas, to prevent the latter from assisting the French in their Designs on Bombay; and further, if it can be effected, to establish such an Interest and Connection between our Government and that of the Marattas, as may ensure the future Support and Assistance of the Maratta State against the French, or any other Power that may be in Enmity with us.

But if you shall have Reason to believe that the Presidency of Bombay have commenced any Negotiation or entered into any Engagements either for the firm Establishment of Peace with the Poona Ministry, or for the Restoration of Ragonaut Row, or for any other Purpose which may prove incompatible with the Operations which we have above authorized; you will in such Case suspend your Negotiations until you shall have received authentic Information, either from Mr. Mostyn or the Presidency of Bombay, of the Nature of the Engagements either projected or executed by them; and you will so conduct yourself as to conform to their Measures if you can consistently with the prior Attention which you will give to our Views; or at least not to engage in any offensive Plan which shall be contrary to that of the Presidency of Bombay. Remembering that a defensive Alliance with Moodajee Boosla being the permanent Object of your Commission, you are to suffer no Consideration whatever to divert you from that Object but the Refusal or Inability of Moodajee Boosla to accede to it, or the Safety of Bombay rendering it impracticable.

You are to observe that the Treaty at present subsisting between the Company and the Peshwa, even admitted to be in its fullest Force, can by no Construction affect our Connection with the Government of Berar, which we not only regard as possessed of a sovereign and independant Power in Fact, but we have a Right to deem it such with the Poona Government from the Testimony of the Ministers themselves, who on a Requisition made by Colonel Upton on the Part of this Government, that Moodajee Boosla should subscribe to the Treaty, excused themselves by declaring in effect though not in express Terms, that they had no Right or Power to compel him.

And if you shall receive any Assurances from the Presidency of Bombay, or from Mr. Mostyn, that the Engagements between the French and the Ministers are dissolved, and that the latter do not entertain any Designs hostile to the Possessions of the East India Company, you must in that Case regard the Treaty between the Company and the Peshwa as possessing full Force, and abstain from any positive Engagement with Moodajee Boosla which may be contrary to it; but this, as we have already observed, must not prevent you from concluding any Engagement with him of a defensive Kind, or even of an offensive, with respect to other Powers or States who are not under their Subjection: Even in the Case thus supposed, it will be no Breach of our Faith with them to agree to station an English Force near the Western Borders of Berar; and we even recommend it as a Guard upon their Fidelity, and as a ready Means of counteraffing any Attempts which they may make in Violation of it.

Having described the Ends which we propose to derive to the Company from an offensive Alliance with Moodajee Boosla, we shall next proceed to those which he may reasonably expect in Return; for we cannot suppose that he will hazard the Peace of his own Government without Prospect of some Advantage adequate to the Risque, nor could we rely equally on his Engagements unless his Interest,

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

by being involved in them, were made a Pledge for his Sincerity and Zeal in the Performance of them.

The Points which appear to us the most likely to excite his Ambition, are the Assertion of his Pretensions to the Inheritance of Ram Raja, and the Recovery of the Conquests which have been made from his Country by Nizam Ally.

The latter is a more distant Object, and at this Moment appears to us foreign from our present Interests : You may receive any Propositions which he may make to you upon this Subject ; you may treat upon them ; but you must refer them to us for Conclusion, unless he shall require it as an indispensable Condition of his forwarding our Views in the Western Part of India, and even in that Case your Engagements mst be confined to the Places originally appertaining to the Government of Berar, and withheld from it since the Death of Iannove. We are not unaware at the same Time of the Probability of our being called upon immediately to oppose the French in the Dominions of Nizam Ally, should he openly and avowedly join the French, or should he join the Ministerial Party at Poona in declared Alliance with the French.

We authorize you to agree to such Terms as may be proposed by the Rajah of Berar, if you shall be persuaded that the Execution of them will tend to the Accomplishment of our Views in Opposition to the Schemes and Interests of our Enemies the French, and in such Case you are authorized to fulfil your Part of the Agreement without waiting for our Sanction.

With respect to the former, if from the State of Moodajee's Forces, his Resources and Connections, compared with those of the Ministers of Poona, you shall be clearly of Opinion that the Chances of Success are considerably on his Side, and he shall require our Assistance in the Undertaking ; we empower and direct you to enter into an express Treaty to that Effect.

The Conditions which may be required for our Participation in an Enterprize of such Magnitude must of Necessity be left to your Judgment, both in the Choice and Mode of securing them. Our immediate Ends will be effectually answered by it, if it is attended with no other Effect than the Exclusion of the French Influence from the Maratta State, and the Introduction of our own in its Stead. But the positive Advantages, if it succeeds, will be all on his Side, and these will therefore, at least entitle us to some Return, besides the Provision effected by it, of Security from future Contingencies.

The Reimbursement of our Charges in this Expedition, from its Commencement to the Period of its Return, to our own Frontier, or of a Sum supposed equivalent to them, ought to be made the first Stipulation.

The Confirmation of the Cessions made to the Presidency of Bombay by Ragonaut Row and Futy Sing Gaycwar, and to this Government, by the Peshwa in the Treaty of Poorundur, may be demanded.

On this Subject you will receive as Instructions, whatever may be written to you by the President and Council of Bombay, but exercise your Discretion in the Execution of them. In the mean Time the Secretary will furnish you with Extracts of such Parts of our Letters to the Presidency of Bombay as have a Relation to this Subject, and from them you will take the general Line of your Conduct respecting it.

On this Side India we desire no Accession of Territory, but shall prefer the Improvement of our Connection with Moodajee Boosla on the Footing propounded in the first Part of these Instructions to any other Stipulations.

As soon as you have agreed to the Plan of Military Operations to be undertaken by our Forces in Alliance with those of Moodajee Boosla, you will give due Notice thereof to Colonel Leslie, or the Officer who shall be in the Command of the Detachment now under his Orders, that he may carry his Part of it into Execution. To this Effect Orders will be written to Colonel Leslie, who has our present Directions to continue his March till he shall have entered the Province of Berar, and to remain there ; you will also give immediate Advice to the Presidency of Bombay of the Treaty when concluded, transmitting Extracts of such Parts as have any Relation to them, or a Copy of the Whole, unless it shall contain any Matters which may require immediate Secrecy.

We think it proper to caution you against encouraging any Proposals from Moodajee, to take a Part in any Designs which he may entertain to the Prejudice of his Brother Bimbajee, and against any Interference in the Competitions of his Family.

To obviate any Misconception of the Extent of your Commission, we think it proper to explain that we do not mean to continue it to the Person of Moodajee Boosla, nor to the local Jurisdiction of Berar ; but that it extends to his Successor in the Event of his Death, or any Change in his Government before or during the Course of your Negotiation, and to the Government dependant on him or his Successors under any Change or Augmentation of it.

You will correspond with Colonel Leslie, or the Officer in command of the Detachment now under his Charge, concerting with him such Measures as you may think necessary for the Success of your Negotiation, or the Safety of the Company's Possessions, and consulting him on any Points of Information which you may require concerning the State of the Country he may pass through, or the Views, Forces, and Circumstances of the different Chiefs who govern it.

We have notified your Appointment to the President and Council at Bombay, to Mr. Mostyn, and to Colonel Leslie, in Letters, of which we enclose Copies for your Information.

You will be furnished with a Cypher, in which you may correspond with the Presidencies of Fort Saint

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

Saint George and Bombay, and Colonel Leslie; observing, that the Words written in Red Ink, which have been inserted for the Occasion, are only to be used in your Correspondence with us.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
the 18th July 1778.

(Signed) Governor General and Council.

Mr. Francis's Minute on the Instructions to Mr. Elliott.

Fort William, 15th August 1778.

Mr. Francis—Having already declared my entire Concurrence in one general Principle laid down by the Governor; viz. "that notwithstanding the Superiority of the British Force in India, its general Line of Action is and must be purely *defensive*;" and having repeatedly stated to the Board my Opinion of the Wisdom of those Instructions which the Court of Directors have constantly given us, and which we ought to consider as the Basis of the British Policy in India; viz. "to make the Defence and Security of Bengal at all Times the principal Object of our Care; never to employ the Company's Forces on distant Expeditions; and never to engage the Company in Disputes between the Country Powers, but to leave those Powers to be a Check upon one another, without our Interference;" I cannot but express the strongest Disapprobation of a Plan which has for its Object a Union of Forces and Interests with one of the Indian States against another, and which, in order to engage the former to unite in a *direct and open War* against the other, proposes to engage the Company's Arms in an Enterprize of no less Magnitude and Extent than the Attainment of the Sovereignty of the Maratta State for our Ally, and the Recovery of any Conquests heretofore made by the Soubah of the Decan over the Rajah of Berar. I consider the proposed Treaty as not only subversive of all the general Principles of Policy which ought to direct this Government, but as highly dangerous and inexpedient in itself at all Times, and more especially at the present Crisis, at a Time when our whole Force is wanted for the Defence of the Company's Possessions, to which Object alone I conceive it is or may easily be made adequate. I will never consent to send any Part of it upon distant Expeditions, far from the Protection of our Frontiers, or to employ it in supporting any Projects or Interests in which we have no Concern; Defence alone should be our Object. With respect to Bengal and Fort Saint George, we have nothing to fear, if we make a proper Use of the Means in our Possession, and apply them steadily to wise and attainable Purposes; that is, if we do not suffer the First to be divided, and the Second to be wasted in support of Projects in which distant Shadows are pursued at the Expence of solid and substantial Interest. With respect to Bombay, which it is laid *cannot now afford Ragoba their Assistance without departing from the immediate Care of their own Safety*, the true and only Way of putting that Place in a Posture of Defence, is to send them a Reinforcement from Madras, and they tell us so themselves. As for Colonel Leslie's Detachment, I very much fear they will never derive any Assistance from it.

These Remarks and Objections are of a general Nature. I come now to the particular Instructions proposed for Mr. Elliott, and shall consider them in the Order in which they stand.

I object to the Powers proposed in the Preamble to be given to Mr. Elliott; and whereas his Commission proposes to have Two Objects, I cannot help expressing my Surprise, that our Sanction to him should be thought necessary for coming to a Conclusion with the Rajah of Berar, upon that which is by far the least hazardous and exceptionable of the Two Measures, I mean the Defensive Treaty, but that he should be allowed to follow his own Judgment in concluding and carrying into Execution the Terms of our *Offensive Alliance*, for the Support of Enterprizes of uncommon Magnitude and Extent, without waiting for our Sanction. Against all such absolute and discretionary Powers I hereby most solemnly protest, and I declare, that I shall never deem this Government bound by any Agreement entered into by him in the Execution of his present Commission, without the previous Knowledge and Approbation of this Board.

1. I object to the defensive Treaty on the Terms proposed, because I think our present Frontier is as much as we are able to defend, and will not admit of our subjecting any Part of our Force to march beyond it at the Requisition of the Rajah of Berar; because, without passing the most distant Limits of his Dominions, such Requisition may carry our Army into the Heart of Indostan, at a vast Distance from Bengal, and to a Situation too remote to admit of their safe and speedy Return to the Protection of our own Provinces in case of Emergency; because, on the other Hand, I never can approve of our calling in Ten thousand Maratta Horse, in any Case, to the Defence of Bengal, being thoroughly convinced that such Allies would only distress and ruin the Country, and never do us real Service against an Enemy; and lastly, because I have no Idea, that if Moodjee Boosla has a Ray of Understanding, and reflects on the fatal Consequences which the Nabob of Owle has experienced from his Connections with this Government, and which took their Origin from a Treaty of Subsidy, he will ever suffer an English Army to establish themselves in this Country under any Pretences whatsoever.

2. The Plan of an offensive Union with Moodjee Boosla seems to be founded on a Supposition that Ragoba has no Party left, and that the Presidency of Bombay have or will abandon him. On my Principles it is immaterial whether this Supposition be well founded or not, because I think it highly impolitic to implicate ourselves in the Support of either of these Persons, but is very material to the Success of the Plan now proposed that no Mistake should be made in this Matter. I do not believe

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

believe that the Presidency of Bombay will easily relinquish their Connections with Ragoba ; if we should not, it is worth considering what our Situation may be, and what Appearance our Conduct will have in the Eyes of the World. In the First Instance, we have a Treaty with the Peshwa, whether we break or renounce in Favour of Ragoba : We authorize the Presidency of Bombay to execute a Plan for restoring him to the Administration, and we send a Detachment of Troops across India to support that Plan. The present Measure supposes a Third Distribution of Power, and a Third Contingent for it, to be supported by our Alliance ; and it is not impossible, that while this Government is uniting its Forces and Interests with those of Moodajee Boosla on one Side of India, the Presidency of Bombay may be equally engaged on the other in executing the Plan which we have already authorized in Conjunction with Ragoba.

All these Difficulties and Inconveniences are supposed to be obviated by the conditional Instructions given to Mr. Elliott, and the Confidence reposed in his Caution and Prudence. I never question the personal Qualifications of any Individual, when the Trust proposed to be vested in him is such as I would repose in no Man. The Cases, in which he is authorized to unite with Moodajee Boosla, in a direct and open War against the Ministerial Party at Poona, with full and absolute Discretion to concert the Plan of Operations with him, are to depend on Mr. Elliott's Knowledge, or on his Persuasion of the Existence of many Facts, concerning which it is very possible he may be misinformed ; but the Consequences of a Mistake, either in point of Judgment or Information, may be fatal.

I do not pretend to know what the Nature of Moodajee Boosla's Pretensions may be to the Succession of the Ram Raja. It is a Question of no Sort of Importance to this Government, unless we voluntarily involve ourselves in it. But if it were possible for me to entertain an Idea of engaging the Company's Arms in the Support of such Pretensions, the Precipitation with which the Conclusion of such an Engagement is pressed, and the implicit Confidence proposed to be placed in Mr. Elliott's sole Judgment and Discretion to decide upon Measures which may affect the very Existence of the British Power in India, would be sufficient to deter me from giving any Countenance to the Measure. I should be guilty of a Breach of Trust, if in an Instance of this Magnitude, I consented to surrender the Powers of this Government to the Discretion of any Individual. To that Part of the Instructions, therefore, in which we are "to empower and direct Mr. Elliott to enter into an express Treaty for supporting Moodajee Boosla's Pretensions, if he shall be in error of Opinion that the Chances of Success are considerably on his Side ; and to leave the Conditions of our Participation in an Enterprize of such Magnitude in Mr. Elliott's Judgment, both in the Choice and Mode of securing them ;" I shall only say, that I believe such a Trust was never yet reposed in a public Minister ; and that I shall never consider myself as a Party to any Terms concluded without my Knowledge.

The Second Condition relative to our Assistance against Nizam Ally, is at first stated as a Subject of Negotiation, to be referred to us for Conclusion ; but it is presently added, "unless Moodajee Boosla shall require it as an indispensable Condition, &c." that is, in Effect, we tie and unbind Mr. Elliott in the same Breath. In the End, we authorize him to agree to such Terms as may be proposed by the Rajah on this Point, if he (Mr. Elliott) shall be persuaded, that the Execution of them will tend to the Accomplishment of our Views ; and in such Case, he is authorized to fulfil his Part of the Agreement, without waiting for our Sanction.

The First Proposition tends to lead the Company's Arms into the Heart of Indostan against the Marratta State, in the Support of Moodajee Boosla's Pretensions to the Succession of the Ram Raja. The Second may carry them into the Decan, in support of his Claims against Nizam Ally ; and in both Cases, the Decision is referred to the sole Judgment and Discretion of Mr. Elliott. In my Opinion, both the Object and the Means need only to be stated to ensure their Condemnation.

After such an extraordinary Delegation of Powers to Mr. Elliott, it does not seem that farther Explanations were necessary to obviate any Misconception of the Extent of his Commission. The last Article, however, banishes every Idea of Limitation in this Respect ; neither the Death of the Prince, with whom he is sent to treat, and on whose personal Views and Disposition toward us, great Stress has heretofore been laid, nor any Change in the Government, is to affect the Execution of the Plan. The Treaty is to be executed with his Successor, whosoever he may be, perhaps a Minor, perhaps an Usurper, perhaps a Man hostile to the English Interest ; and it is to extend to the Government dependant on him, under any Change or Augmentation of it ; that is, we conclude our Treaty with a Prince, who either may not have Half the Territory now possessed by Moodajee Boosla, or who may have extended his Dominion to the other Side of India. In the latter Case, it would be prudent at least to specify, in the defensive Treaty, what those Limits should be, which the Company's Troops are not to pass, and within which the Rajah of Beta may employ them on any Military Service he thinks proper.

A true Copy.
(Signed) J. P. Auriol, Secy.

Mr,

A P P E N D I X, N° 70.

Mr. Wheler's Opinion on the Instructions to Mr. Elliott.

Fort William, the 18th July 1778.

Mr. Wheler—The Minute now before the Board, and on which I am called to deliver my Opinion, was received by me in Circulation at Nine last Night, and I am absolutely required to give my Opinion on a Subject of this great Magnitude before Ten this Morning: Thus circumstanced, I believe it cannot be expected that I should enter into a full Discussion of the various Articles which compose the Governor's Minute before us; but that it will be sufficient for me to declare my general Sentiments on the whole Question; reserving to myself the Right of a fuller Discussion, should I find it necessary hereafter.

But I must here observe, that Mr. Francis has expressed himself so ably and fully upon the Subject, that little more is necessary for me than to concur with him most heartily in his Dissent and Protest, and likewise in the several Opinions delivered by him upon the Propositions contained in the Governor's Minute.

I am entirely against all distant Expeditions and Connections, as contrary to the Company's Instructions, their fundamental Policy, and particularly inexpedient at this Time.

I join heartily with Mr. Francis, in thinking that our whole Force ought to be retained here for the Defence of our own Territory and those of our Ally the Nabob of Oude; and that this so far from being diminished by Detachments should be materially increased on this Emergency. I have a very unfavourable Opinion of entering into Alliances with Maratta Princes, which they usually maintain no longer than it is for their own Interest.

I am against the Detachment under Colonel Leslie advancing further into the Maratta Territory, least they either meet with some fatal Disaster, or we should be unable to procure their Return, when we may want them for the Defence of Bengal.

I am at a Loss to conceive how we shall be able to fulfil Stipulations with Moodajee Boosla for forwarding his Pretensions either to the Dignity of Peshwa, or on the Dominions said to be taken from him by Nizam Ally; how our Army is to act, or be supplied at that Distance, or what good Effect such Measures are to produce, either for the Defence of Bengal or Bombay, other than of driving those States, from Apprehensions of our ambitious Views, entirely into the Arms of the French, and compelling them to form a general Alliance for extirpating us from Indostan. What will then avail our Alliance with the Rajah of Berar? how are we to depend on his Faith; or to get back our Detachment, when it will be most material to us?

For my Part I apprehend the most melancholy Consequences: With these Impressions it will not be wondered if I here enter my Dissent and Protest against the Expedition, the Treaty now proposed, and the Powers proposed to be given to Mr. Elliott, to bind this Government in Measures, which I deem neither wise nor expedient, and which it is highly probable we may hereafter be unable to fulfil, and thereby add our present proposed Ally to the Number of our Enemies.

A true Copy.

(Signed)

J. P. Auriol, Secr^r.

Mr. Barwell's Opinion on the Instructions to Mr. Elliott.

Mr. Barwell—I agree to the Instructions as they now stand: The Arguments opposed to the Policy that has dictated the intended Treaty with Moodajee Boosla do not in my Opinion weaken the Grounds on which it has been regulated. The Defence of Bengal is no less an Object of it than the Defence of the Western Possessions of the Company on the Peninsula. The Objections urged to the Powers delegated to our Ambassador I conceive are fully answered by a Reference to the Map, at the Instant the Reader shall reason on the Means by which it is proposed to effect the Safety of the Company's Possessions. The Time and Opportunity would be lost by a Reference, in participating the Responsibility annexed to a Measure of such a Magnitude. I disclaim every other Rule for my Judgment but the very Object Mr. Francis himself proposes. We differ as to the Means; I adopt such as in my Opinion will prove most efficacious; he, such as he conceives better calculated to the Security of those Interests we have mutually in View.

A true Copy.

(Signed)

J. P. Auriol, Secretary.



A P P E N D I X, N° 71.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 18th July 1773.

P R E S E N T,
The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

THE Governor General having prepared Instructions for Mr. Elliott, on his Deputation to Berar, now lays them before the Board.

Mr. Wheler, Mr. Francis, and Mr. Barwell, deliver in their Opinions on this Subject.

The Governor General delivers in the following Minute :

The present Crisis calls for Action not for Debate. I think it improper to waste my Time, or to consume that of the Board in the latter, when it can be better employed, and when I know that no Argument will avail. Whenever I shall find it necessary to reply to the Objections and Protests of Messrs. Francis and Wheler, I shall address myself to higher Powers. I shall therefore now proceed to such other Propositions as I think necessary for the Conclusion of this Business.

In the First Place, I move, That the Office Drafts of the Instructions, after they are written fair for Mr. Elliott, be sealed and authenticated, in any Manner that the Board may think proper, and deposited in some secret and secure Place; and that they be not entered in the Consultations, until Mr. Elliott shall have concluded his Negotiations, or shall have made such a Progress in them as may make a longer Concealment unnecessary. The same Caution was observed with the Instructions which were delivered to me by the late Council, in the Year 1773. When I was deputed from them to treat with the late Vizier at Benares, the Effect was answerable to the Intention; the Subject of my Negotiation remained a profound Secret, not only to the Time of my Interview with the Vizier, but from the private Manner in which it was conducted, it was unknown, and scarcely surmised, till the Conclusion of the Treaty of course divulged it. I own I do not expect the same Caution on the present Occasion, for I am sorry to add, that the Subject of Mr. Elliott's Commission is already known; yet it may have this good Consequence, that what now only passes as a Report, wanting that Authentication which the original Documents, though but in Possession of a few, would give them, may still continue a Report, and either die away, or be little heeded. If the Board approve of this Motion, it will be equally proper, that the Minutes which have been delivered upon the Subject of the Instructions be also kept back from our Records deposited with them. Copies may notwithstanding be taken, to be sent to the Court of Directors by the first and subsequent Dispatches.

2dly. I move, That Letters be written to the President and Council of Bombay, to Mr. Mostyn, and Colonel Leslie, to inform them that Mr. Elliott is deputed to the Rajah of Berar, to treat with him on the Part of this Government; to request that the President and Council of Bombay will advise Mr. Elliott of all Occurrences in which the political Interests of the Company, or of that Presidency in particular, are concerned; and to instruct him upon any Points respecting his Negotiation, which either their own Situation and Circumstances may suggest, or on which he shall request their Advice. That to prevent any Opposition of Measures, they refrain from any Engagements that may be hostile to the actual Administration at Poona; except such as shall be necessary for the Defence of their own Possessions, until they shall have received our further Information, concerning the particular Object and Designs of the present Negotiation, should it be found necessary to require their Co-operation with them; and that Mr. Mostyn may have their Directions to correspond with Mr. Elliott, and to inform him constantly of the State of Affairs at Poona, both such as respect the Concerns of that Presidency with the Maratta State, and the Views, Connections, and Strength of the different Parties at Poona: That our Letter to Mr. Mostyn require from him the same Communication. That Colonel Leslie be required to conform to such Engagements as shall be concluded in our Name with Moodajee Boosla, and as respect the Forces under his Command.

The Governor General's First Proposition being resolved in the Affirmative; the Instructions to Mr. Elliott, and the Minute thereon, are accordingly sealed up and deposited in the Secretary's Office.

Mr. Wheler acquiesces to the Second Proposition.

Mr. Francis—If the Treaty be concluded Colonel Leslie must conform to it.

Mr. Barwell agrees to the Second Proposition.

The Second Proposition being resolved in the Affirmative; the following Letters are written to the Presidency of Bombay, Mr. Mostyn, and to Colonel Leslie:

A P P E N D I X, N° 71.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Council at Bombay.

Gentlemen,

Upon a mature and full Consideration of the different Views and Connections of the Country Powers of Hindostan, we think that an Alliance with Moodajee Boosla, the Raja of Berar, may be attended with the greatest Utility in providing for the Defence of the Company's Possessions in the present War; we have therefore deputed Mr. A. K. Elliott with full Instructions to negotiate and conclude a Treaty with that Chief: We request that you will correspond with Mr. Elliott; advise him of any Occurrences that may affect the general political Interest of the Company's Settlements, and of your's in particular; and instruct him upon any Points respecting his Negotiation, which either your own Situation and Circumstances shall suggest, or on which he may apply to you for Information and Advice.

The Success of the Measures we have entrusted to Mr. Elliott must depend in a great Measure upon their present Secrecy; he will however notify to you such Articles as he may agree to with the Raja; in the mean Time to prevent any Steps of a contrary Tendency on your Part, we request that you will refrain from forming any Engagements of a Nature hostile to the actual Administration at Poona, excepting such as may appear absolutely necessary for the Defence of your own Possessions.

We also request that Mr. Moltyr may be enjoined to communicate to him constantly the State of Affairs at Poona, both such as concern the Interests of your Presidency with the Marattas, and the Views, Connections, and Strength of the different Parties in that Government.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
the 18th July 1778.

P. S. Both Colonel Leslie and Captain Elliott are possessed of Copies of the small Cypher B, formed in 1755.

To Thomas Mostyn, Esquire.

Sir,

Having thought it necessary to depute Mr. A. K. Elliott to Naguipore, to treat with Moodajee Boosla, the Chief of Berar, on certain Points which we deem essential to the Welfare of the Company's Settlements in India, we request that you will correspond with him, and communicate to him, from Time to Time, a particular State of the Affairs and Transactions at Poona, both as far as they concern the immediate Interests of the Company, and the Views, Connections, and Strength of the different Parties in the Maratta Government.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
the 18th July 1778.

To Colonel Leslie.

Sir,

Having thought it necessary to depute Mr. A. K. Elliott to treat with Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar, on certain Points which we deem essential to the Welfare of the Company's Possessions in India, we direct that you correspond with him on such Subjects as may be necessary for his Information, as well with respect to the Views, Connections, and Forces of the several Chiefs who govern the Countries through which you may or have passed, as to their different Situations and Circumstances; and that you conform to such Articles and Engagements as he may conclude on Behalf of this Government with Moodajee Boosla, as far as they may respect the Forces under your Command.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
the 18th July 1778.

Mr. Francis—I agree with the Governor General, that this is a Time to act, and that none should be wasted in Debate. Mr. Wheeler's Minute and mine have occasioned no other Delay than what was necessary for reading them. There are Two Points however, of which no Notice is taken in the Instructions, and which I think should be provided for; I submit them to the Governor's Consideration as they occur to me.

The First is, that Mr. Elliott is not instructed to correspond with Colonel Leslie, or to concert any Measures whatever with him; yet Cases may occur in which Colonel Leslie's Opinion, as well with respect to the State of the Country he has passed through, and the Views and Forces of the different Princes who govern that Country, as to the actual Situation and Circumstances of his own Army, may be very necessary for Mr. Elliott's Information and Guidance in the Conduct of his Negotiations.

The Second is, That no Provision is made for a Case, which, whether probable or not, deserves Consideration, as the Consequences of it may materially affect the Success of Mr. Elliott's Negotiations: I mean the Possibility that Colonel Leslie's March should have been stopped either by direct Opposition, or any other unforeseen Difficulties; or that he may have received a Check in attempting

A P P E N D I X, N^o 71.

" tempting to cross the Cane River. In his Letter of the 24th June, he informs us, " that he is " not at present able to say what Part they will take, whether they mean to oppose his March or " not; their Forces are collected between Chatterpore and Pannah, on the Banks of the Kaine " River, where Anrood Sing's Forces, with Ballajee and Bessa Pundit, have taken Post," we cannot be absolutely certain of the Event. It is possible at least that some Mischance may have happened, and such a Possibility ought to be provided for.

The Governor General—The first Proposition I think very proper; although it comes within the Line of his Instructions, I have no Objection to its being made a specific Part of them. I think it unnecessary to make any Provision in the Instructions for the Case supposed in the latter Part of Mr. Francis's Minute: it is included in the former.

Mr. Wheler—I agree to the First; and as the Second is a Precaution which cannot be attended with any Inconvenience by being inserted in Mr. Elliott's Instructions, I see no Objection to its making a Part of them.

Mr. Barwell—I think both these Points included in the Instructions, and the Repetition of them unnecessary.

Agreed, That the First Part of Mr. Francis's Minute be added to Mr. Elliott's Instructions.

ly 1778. The 20th of July the Governor General moves, That Mr. Elliott's Appointment be notified to the Presidency of Fort St. George; that they consider whatever Intelligence he may transmit to them as the authentic Intelligence of a Public Minister; and that they correspond with Mr. Elliott, informing him of any Events which relate to Peace or War, but particularly of any Changes in their political Situation with Nizam ul Mulk.

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|---|
| • Colonel Upton's Allowances were settled by the Governor General and Council as follows; viz. |
| 1000 Sonaut Rupees per Month, — or, per Annum. His Pay as Lieutenant Colonel per Ann. 12,000 |
| Double Batta as Lieutenant Colonel — 2,920 |
| 40 Rupees per Day, or per Annum — 14,600 |
| 500 Rupees per Month for Servants, Stationary, and every other incidental Charge not particularly specified } 6,000 |
| Rupees per Month for a Moonshie — — 1,200 |
| Sonaut Rupees 36,720 Batta 11 per Cent. — 4,039 |
| Total of Colonel Upton's Allowances per Annum while on his Embassy to Poona — — CR. 40,759 or £. Sterling 4,075 |

N. B. The above were exclusive of the Allowances made to the Colonel's Suite.

tions, and also to Mr. Elliott's Credentials, which are dated 20th July 1778.

The Governor General moves, That Mr. Elliott draw the same fixed Allowances as Colonel Upton*, viz.

Lieutenant Colonel's Pay and double full Batta fixed Salary, Contingencies, including Moonshies, Servants, &c. That Mr. Farquhar attend Mr. Elliott as Assistant, and be allowed Captain's Pay and Double Batta. The Governor General supposes, that the whole Expence of Mr. Elliott's Deputation, exclusive of the necessary Presents, will not much exceed his personal Allowances, as above stated, and those of his Assistant; that he has every Reason to believe that Mr. Elliott will be attended from Cuttack to Naigpore by a Troop of the Rajah of Berar's Cavalry; but should this not be the Case, he proposes that Mr. Elliott be authorized to disburse such Sums as may appear to him reasonable in procuring a Military Escort. The Board agree to the Governor's Motions.

Letter of Credence to Mr. Alexander Elliott; written the 20th of July 1778.

To Alexander Elliott, Esquire.

Whereas an Intercourse of Friendship has long subsisted between this Government and that of Berar, and it is our Desire, and we believe it to be that of Modajee Bhoosila, the Rajah or Chief for the Time being of Berar, to confirm and perpetuate the same by a formal Treaty of Alliance, We the Governor General and Council, in virtue of the Powers vested in us by the King and Parliament of Great Britain, and by the English East India Company, to direct and controul the political Affairs of all the Company's Settlements in India, relying on your Fidelity, Prudence, and Integrity, have deputed you to proceed to Naigpore, or to such other Place where the Rajah shall reside, and to negotiate and conclude with Maha Rajah Modajee Bhoosila, or the true Rajah for the Time being of the Province of Berar and its Dependencies, a Treaty of Peace and Friendship between him and his Heirs and Successors on the one Part, and the English East India Company on the other, on such Terms as shall be for the mutual Benefit, Honour, and Satisfaction of both Parties; and we hereby give you full Powers to that Effect, declaring that we will ratify and confirm whatever shall be so concluded by you in our Names, and on our Behalf, according to the Instructions with which we have furnished you for that Purpose.

Given in Fort William, under our Hands and the Seal of the Company, this 20th of July 1778,
in the Year of our Lord, or 24th of Junima
See Assanee 1192 Hegere.

A P P E N D I X, N° 72.

*Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council in Bengal, to the Court of Directors, dated
17th August 1778.*

Par. 5. **W**ITH such circumstantial Evidence before us we thought that no Time should be lost in proceeding upon it as Fact, and therefore agreed to take such immediate Measures as we judged necessary for the Security of your Possessions committed to our Charge. We ordered Colonel Leslie with his Detachment to halt when he should arrive within the District of Berar, and to wait there for further Orders: We wrote to the Presidency of Fort Saint George, recommending it to them to assemble a sufficient Force in the Neighbourhood of Pondicherry with all possible Expedition, to be ready to invest that Place the Moment that a Confirmation of the News should arrive: We advised them to open a Negotiation with the Nabob Hyder Ally, who lately had made repeated Applications to their President to solicit an Alliance with the Company: We ordered the Balance of Cash which had accumulated in the Hands of our Resident at Owde to be immediately sent down to the Presidency; and called for such Accounts as might enable us to determine the State of our immediate Resources.

6. At the ensuing Meeting of the Council the Governor General proposed a Plan for an Alliance with Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar, a powerful Chief, with whom a friendly Intercourse had long subsisted, and who on many Occasions had manifested a Disposition uniformly amicable to the Company: As the Plan is particular and worthy of your Attention, we beg Leave to refer to it, and to the Minutes which have been entered upon it; contenting ourselves in this Place with informing you that we have accordingly appointed Mr. Alexander Elliott with full Powers and Instructions to negotiate and conclude a Treaty of Alliance with Moodajee Boosla. As the Success of Mr. Elliott's Endeavours must be governed in some Measure by the Secrecy in which the Powers of Concession confided in him are preserved, we have thought it necessary for the present to keep his Instructions from our Records; a Copy however, with the Minutes upon them, is made a separate Number in the Packet for your Information.

26. The Situation of Affairs in the North West Quarter is nearly as follows: Colonel Leslie, with the Detachment under his Command, notwithstanding the Promises of Friendship which were delivered to him from Balajee, and the other Maratta Chiefs possessing the Districts about Calpee, met with some slight Opposition from their Troops in crossing the Jumna. They retired before the advanced Party when they had landed, and after some Skirmishes retreated, leaving the Fort of Calpee evacuated, which Colonel Leslie in consequence took Possession of. He then continued his March without further molestation till his Arrival at Chatterpore, where he was obliged to halt for the Purpose of repairing his Gun Carriages, which had been a good deal shaken by the Badness of the Roads.

27. When the Detachment had been some Days at Chatterpore, the above Chief continued to manifest the same Spirit of Jealousy and Opposition which he had at first discovered, by joining with the inferior Rajahs to throw every Oblstruction and Annoyance in the Way that he could accomplish. He published the strongest Prohibition to the Inhabitants to furnish Grain or any Kind of Refreshment to the Troops; harrassed their foraging Parties; intercepted their Provisions, and drove away their Cattle. In this State of Affairs, Colonel Leslie received Intelligence of the unfortunate End of Captain Munro, who was cut off in his Way to join the Detachment; he therefore resolved, from these combined Outrages, to attack the principal Station of the Enemy at the Fort of Mow, about Three Cos West of his Encampment, where they had about 600 Cavalry, and 2,000 Matchlock-men, with a Train of Eleven Pieces of Cannon. Lieutenant Colonel Goddard was accordingly dispatched with Three Battalions and a Body of Horse; and after having forced his Way through some Breaches in the Wall of Circumvallation, he engaged and drove the Enemy out of the Fort. The dispersed Parties have since withdrawn to Rajegur, on the Banks of the River Kain, where Balajee having assembled his Men, still declares his Intention to oppose the Progress of our Troops.

28. By our last Advices, per Northington, you were fully informed of the Change in the Government at Poona, by the Reversion of the principal Direction of Affairs from the Hands of Nana Funeese to those of Moraba Funeese; of the different Invitations which Moraba had given to Ragoba; and of his Proposal to charge Mr. Mostyn with Powers to conduct that Chief to Poona. After having amused our Resident for some Time with reiterated Promises and Protractions, it evidently appeared, that the Professions he made were calculated merely to deceive; while the real Object of his Intentions was nothing more than to establish his own Authority in the Government.

29. Mr. Mostyn, after waiting a considerable Time for the proposed Overtures to be made to Ragoba, and despairing of them at length, from the Insincerity of the Ministers, and their apparent Adoption of Nana's Systems, which were unfavourable to the English, formally made the demands of them which were enjoined by our Letter to the President and Council of Bombay,

A P P E N D I X, N° 72.

under Date the 23d March. He repeatedly solicited their Answer to each separate Article : but ineffectually, till many Days after the Time limited in his Requisition had elapsed.

30. About this Time another Revolution took Effect in the Administration at Poona. Nana Furneese, by a considerable Sum of Money, which he engaged to pay to Madajee Scindia and Tuccojee Holcar, having gained those Chiefs over to his Assistance, wrested the Government again from the Hands of Moraba ; who, finding his Influence and Power thus failing him, applied in earnest, as we understand, in concert with the principal Persons who adhered to him (among which Number the Name of Tuccojee appears, notwithstanding he had been induced by a pecuniary Consideration, to seem to side with Nana, and is represented, in Conjunction with Madajee Scindia, in Person, to have compelled Moraba to surrender the Sicca, which was the Ensign of his Office, to Nana Furneese) to Mr. Moltyn, offering precise Terms to fix Ragoba in the Place of Regent, if the Presidency of Bombay would agree to bring him with the Company's Forces to join their Party ; and delivering at the same Time, under the Seal of the Peshwa, satisfactory Assurances in Reply to the Demands which had been insisted upon by Mr. Moltyn, for the Accomplishment of the Treaty.

31. We have just received, express, Advices from the Select Committee at Bombay, dated 25th July, of which we send a Copy in the Packet, containing their Proceedings on the above Proposals, which Mr. Moltyn, being duly authorized by the Party, had delivered to them in Person ; also other Answers to the Resident's Demands, which Nana Furneese, upon re-assuming the Government at Poona, had caused to be given to Mr. Lewis, after Mr. Moltyn's Departure.

32. These are pronounced by the Select Committee to be vague, evasive, unsatisfactory, and amounting to a Refusal, aggravated by a Comparison with Moraba's Answers. They therefore, in virtue of the Authority given by our Letter of the 23d March, proceeded to declare the Answers of Nana a Violation of the Treaty ; and on these Grounds, urged by Nana's avowed Predilection for the French, the Prospect of inevitable War with that Nation, and the Means which they would possess, conjointly with the Marattas, to cut off the Supplies required by the Island of Bombay from the Continent, they proceeded to consider and attend to the Offers made in favour of Ragoba. In consequence of which they have resolved to pursue the most practicable Way of placing him in the Regency of Poona, by Means of their own Forces, aided by Colonel Leslie's Detachment, and supported by the Party and Troops of Moraba and Tuccojee, if the Advices which they may receive from Europe, or from us, before they can begin their Operations in September, shall not render a different Plan of Measures expedient.

33. The general Transactions of this Government with the Nabob of Owde being of such a Nature as not to require Secrecy, and the Business of War furnishing additional Matter for our private Department, we have transferred our Correspondence with the Resident at Owde, and various other Subjects, to the public Records ; and shall only mention in this Place, that the Nabob having consented to Captain Osborne's Plan, for raising a Battalion of Sepoys for the Protection of the Douab, which we recommended to him, Captain Osborne is accordingly employed in forming this Corps.

34. Nudjiff Cawn having made Peace with the Seicks, is again desirous of receiving Major Hannay as an Agent from this Government ; and has addressed the Governor General, requesting that he may be permitted to repair to his Court. We have in consequence directed the Major to visit Nudjiff Cawn, with the Vizier's Consent, and to report to us any Proposals which he may have to offer to our Consideration.

35. We have this Day taken into Consideration the Advices from the Select Committee of Bombay, mentioned in the foregoing Part of this Letter ; and have approved of their Resolutions, under certain Provisoos, which will appear in the Extract of our Proceedings, enclosed a Number in the Packet.

We have the Honour to be,
Honourable Sirs,

Your most faithful
humble Servants,
Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

Fort William,
17th August 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 73.

Persian Correspondence; received 20th May 1778.

From Modajee Bhosila; received 24th May 1778.

YOUR agreeable Letter under Date the 3d of Rubbee-ul-awal reached me on the 27th of the same Month (26th April) and afforded me the greatest Pleasure. You write that you have appointed to the Command of the Detachment destined for the Reinforcement of Bombay, Colonel Leslie, an Officer of Abilities, Experience, and approved Bravery, and one who is possessed of your entire Confidence, and have directed him to correspond with me; that he will accordingly apply to me on every Occasion where he may stand in need of Assistance and Support, which may probably frequently happen; and you request that regarding his Letters in the same Light as if written by yourself I will afford him every Degree of Assistance he may require, and consider him as every Way worthy of my entire Confidence, and that I will always reckon you as my most warm and sincere Friend. An invariable Regard to the Duties of Friendship is highly commendable and praiseworthy, and I have accordingly replied to your several Letters on this Subject in the same Manner which Friendship dictated, and hope that my repeated Letters have safely reached you. It is near Twenty Days since trusty Agents have been dispatched from this to the Nurbudder where they wait the Arrival of Colonel Leslie, and for the greater Security I have written to that Gentleman to give him Information of my Agents being in waiting for him there. As the Veil which separated us is now removed, and we are so intimately connected with each other, I have regarded whatever you have written me as proceeding from the Dictates of Friendship, and your Wants I regard as my own. You will therefore lend him in full Confidence, and on his Arrival on the Banks of the Nurbudder he will find every Kind of Assistance and Support from my Envoys, both with respect to Provisions and other Necessaries as well as Instructions for his Route. I have not yet heard from Colonel Leslie; as soon as I do, I shall return him a satisfactory Answer.

From Modajee Bhosila; received 4th July 1778.

I have been favoured with your agreeable Letter in Reply to Two of mine, and expressing your Pleasure at the Proofs of my steady Friendship in my ready Compliance with your Request, respecting a free Passage for your Troops, in having deputed a trusty Person to meet them on the Banks of the Nurbudder, and invited the Commander to advance with Confidence and Security; and adding, that, by the Blessing of God, the greatest Advantages will be derived to our respective States by our intimate Union; also, that you have, agreeably to my Desire, directed Beneram Pundit to repair to the Commander of the Forces, and accompany him, and doubt not of his Compliance. This Letter reached me on the 4th of Jummadee-ul-awul, 3d of April, and made me very happy by its Contents. Your many friendly Letters, respecting the Dispatch of your Forces to Bombay, which are filled with Professions of the most sincere and perfect Friendship, and of the mutual Advantages which will accrue therefrom to our respective States, have taken such deep Root in my Mind, that I am not only perfectly convinced of them, but entertain even still greater Expectations from so intimate an Union. With respect to the Intrigues and Connection of the Poona Ministers with the French, and their Estrangement from the English, you observe, that although you do not implicitly credit all the various Reports you have received on this Subject, yet it is the Duty of a Ruler of a State to be always on his Guard, and prepared against every Event, and that my Remarks on this Subject were very just and proper. The Matter stands thus: It has been the invariable Practice of my Family steadily to pursue a Friendship once contracted, and to let with the greatest Candour, and to give such Friend every necessary Piece of Intelligence which comes to our Knowledge; this, by the Blessing of God, you have already had, and will have still further Proofs of. The good Faith and Integrity of the English Nation is also become a Proverb, and are most firmly imprinted on my Mind, they are clearly proved to me by the intimate and unreserved Communications which you make in the Course of the Correspondence which has been established between us; God, who penetrates the Secrets of the Heart, knows the Sincerity of this Declaration, which is sufficient.

Whilst my Son, and my Minister Dewagur Pundit, were at Poorunder, all that they saw there was afterwards communicated to you by the latter. In your first Letter on this Subject, you write that the Poona Ministers had received the French Vaceel, and granted him the Port of Choulunder, and a Topekana, and estranged themselves from you, and formed Connections with the Enemies of the King of England; and that it was incumbent on you to guard against their Designs; I therefore, with a View of discovering their real Intentions, wrote Letters, in which I lightly alluded to these Matters, and now send you, for your Instruction, the Substance of the Aishwa's Reply to me and Luckmun Vaceel. You must likewise have received continual Advices from

A P P E N D I X, N° 73.

from that Quarter, and will receive further. The Peishwa informs me likewise, that he has written to Calcutta Assurances of his steady Adherence to the Treaty, and Information of his having given the French Vackel his Dismission: This Letter, if it has reached you, will also give you further Information.

The Whole to be deduced from this is, that it is sound Policy, and the Duty of the Ruler of a State, to attend to all the Advices he receives; to search into the Truth of them; and to take his Measures on whatever is proved true; keeping himself constantly on his Guard, and prepared against every Event. You are blessed with Wisdom and Experience; it is therefore unnecessary for me to dwell on such Subjects to you. I have written Two or Three different Letters to Colonel Leslie, and have received a Letter from him, accompanying One from you. My Agents have been waiting near Two Months on the Banks of the Nurbudder, in Expectation of the Arrival of the Forces: I do not yet know if they have crossed the Jummun. As the rainy Season is at Hand, and they have a long March before them, and have not yet arrived on this Side the Jummun, I request you will inform me if they are to advance or not, that I may give Instructions to my Agents accordingly. I am much pleased that you have, agreeable to my Desire, sent Beneram to join the Detachment; it was highly proper.

I have not replied to the Peishwa's Letter, but shall do it in whatever Manner you intimate to me. I wait your Reply, which I beg may be expeditious.

Knowing me ever anxious for your Welfare, favour me with frequent Accounts of your Health, Views, and the State of Affairs, which will be the Means of encreasing our Friendship.

Enclosure in the above.

Copy of a Letter in the Hindoo Language from the Peishwa to Maha Rajah Modajee Bhosila and Luckmun Row Vackel; received at Naigpore the 5th of Jummadec-ul-Awul, 4th of April 1778.

The Particulars respecting the French are as follows:

This is a powerful State, and every Power is desirous of sending Ambassadors to cultivate its Friendship and seek its Connection. To refuse Admittance to the Ambassadors of the French Monarch, or other Powers charged with Propositions of Friendship from their Master, would be highly improper, and not to hear their Representations would be inconsistent with the Credit and Dignity of the State. It is the Duty of the Ruler of a State to make himself acquainted with the Affairs of every Stranger; for which Purpose it was necessary to admit the French Vackel to an Audience, and he was treated in a Manner becoming the Dignity of this State.

When a Treaty of Friendship and Union has been established with the English, so that no Shadow of Difference remains, to break this Connection for the Sake of an Alliance with the French would not only be a Proof of the greatest Folly, but would be totally unprofitable. The Report of the Grant of a Fort to the French, and Topekanna to their Ambassador, is entirely groundless; the Matter is this: When the French Vackel arrived, he brought with him Merchandise, and by my Permission landed them at Readunda; Part of them he sold there, and Part at Poona and Poorunder. His Stay here so long is solely to collect in the Money for the Goods.

At what Period have the French shewn themselves, or what great Action have they performed, to induce any one to seek their Friendship or Connection? and for what Purpose should a Fort and Topekanna be entrusted to them? I have given them neither one nor the other; I have of my own Accord given the French Vackel his Dismission to his own Country; his Stay is solely to collect the Amount of the Merchandise he has sold; it would be improper forcibly to drive him away; but I understand he will shortly depart: It is therefore improper that the English Chiefs should form any Suspicions of this Quarter on that Account, and I am convinced they will not give Way to any such; I have not nor will ever deviate a Hair's Breadth from the Duties of Friendship to them. You will therefore (this is addressed to the Vackel) represent this Matter in a clear Light to the Rajah, and cause him to write Letters, explaining it satisfactorily, to Calcutta; I have likewise written to Calcutta on this Subject to remove all Doubts which may have arisen: Should this Matter be represented differently by any News Writer, you will pay no Degree of Credit to it.

From Dewagur Pundit: Received 6th July 1778.

I have been honoured in an happy Hour with your gracious Letter, which afforded me the greatest Satisfaction, and by its Contents gave great Pleasure to the Rajah. The sending Beneram Pundit to accompany the Commander of the Detachment was highly proper; the great and mutual Advantages, which will naturally be produced by the unreserved Communication of your mutual Sentiments in the Correspondence which has been established between you and the Rajah, by which your Friendship will be carried to the highest Pitch, will appear at a proper Opportunity. The Substance of a Letter from the Paishwa to my Master and Luckman Row is sent for your Information: For further Particulars permit me to refer you to my Master's Letter.

A P P E N D I X, N° 73, 74.

To Maha Raja Modajee Bhoosila: Written 24th July.

I have already written you a full Account of the Affairs of this Quarter, and of my Design to depute Mr. Elliott to conclude a perpetual Treaty of Friendship and Alliance between you and the Company, on such Terms as may be for the mutual Benefit, Honour, and Satisfaction of both Parties. That Gentleman took Leave of me on the 20th Instant, or 24th of Rubbee-asseenee, and begun his Journey to Naigpore, where he will have the Pleasure of delivering you this Letter. I have already written you so fully on the Abilities, Prudence, and Worth of this Gentleman, who possesses my entire Esteem and Confidence, that it is needless to enlarge on the Subject. I shall therefore only repeat, that nothing has passed between you and me, either by Letters or through Beneram Pundit, but what he is informed of, and that he has full Power from this Government to negotiate and conclude a perpetual Treaty of Alliance with you, in such Manner that whatever he concludes in our Name and on our Parts we will ratify and confirm.

I request that you will regard him as myself, and pay equal Attention to whatever he shall represent to you, and treat him with every Mark of Honour and Regard.

To Dewagur Pundit: D°.

Containing the Substance of the above Letter, with this Addition: I rely on you that you will exert yourself so warmly with your Master as to ensure a fortunate Issue to the Negotiations entrusted to Mr. Elliott, which will be productive of the most advantageous Consequences to both States; I am too well acquainted with the Wisdom of the Maha Rajah's Government and of your Administration to propose any Thing which will not add to the Power of the Maha Rajah, and to the Reputation of his Ministers.

To Modajee Bhoosila: Written 27th July.

I have already written you repeatedly on the Subject of my Design to depute Mr. Elliott to conclude a Treaty of perpetual Friendship and Alliance between you and the Company.

That Gentleman took Leave of me the 20th Instant, 24th of Rubbee-asseunil, and as he means to proceed with the greatest Expedition, I doubt not but you, agreeable to my Request, will use every Means in your Power to prevent any Delay or Obstructions to his Journey. I hope he will arrive almost as soon as you receive this Letter.

He is a Gentleman of my own House, and particularly attached to me, and of great Abilities; he possesses my entire Confidence, and is invested with the fullest Powers from this Government, which has the Controul of all the English Possessions and Forces in India, to conclude a firm Treaty with you in our Name and on our Behalf, and whatever he shall so conclude we will confirm and ratify.

I therefore request that you will regard him in the same Light as myself, and pay equal Attention to whatever he shall represent to you, as if it had proceeded from my own Mouth.

The Advantages to be mutually derived from so intimate an Union as I propose to form with you, will be evident to you who are possessed of the greatest Judgment and Penetration; and I doubt not but you will enter warmly into the Proposals which will be made to you by Mr. Elliott, and conclude with him a Treaty on so firm a Basis as may continue to our latest Posterity.

A P P E N D I X, N° 74.

From the Nabob Nizam ul Dowla to the Governor. No Date; received 21st June 1778.

I Am given to understand, that the Gentlemen at Bengal have wrote to you to prepare Warlike Stores, &c. in order to assist Ragonaut Row; and that you are accordingly making Preparations for that Purpose. When the Company at Madras have entered into a solemn Treaty with me, that where-ever my Enemies are, their's shall be also; what Consistency is there in their giving their Assistance to Ragonaut Row, my professed Enemy? Either the Gentlemen of Bengal are not acquainted with the Engagements of those at Madras, or if they are, they suppose that these Engagements are those of the Company at Madras, and not of the Company of Bengal; Which of these Two am I left to suppose? If you have not already acquainted them with the Treaty which

A P P E N D I X, N° 74, 75.

subsists between us, you ought to do it now, but if the Gentlemen at Bengal in supporting Ragonaut Row are determined to make War with the Pundit Purdhaun Madherow, I shall be obliged, in consideration of the Treaty subsisting between him and me, to give him every possible Assistance on my Part.

You, Sir, will be pleased to communicate these Particulars to the Governor of Bengal, and acquaint me with the Result of it. What shall I say more?

From the Nabob Nizam Ally Khan: Received 23d July 1778.

When a Merchant of Bengal formerly came here with Rarities, and curious Productions of that Quarter, I discoursed with him on the Treaty which subsisted between me and Row Pundit Purdhaun, Madho Narain Row, of the deceitful Murder of Narrain Row by Ragonaut Row, his Expedition against me, the War which ensued, his subsequent Defeat, and the Renewal of my Engagements on the firmest Basis with Pundit Purdhaun; all which Particulars I enlarged upon to the said Merchant, that he might give you a minute Detail of them, which I doubt not he did. Some Time ago, when Colonel Upton quitted Poorunder, and returned by the Route of Hyderabad, he paid me a Visit: I took the Opportunity of discoursing largely with him of the bad Faith and invincible Villainy of Ragonaut Row, and of the Renewal of the Treaty between me and Pundit Purdhaun, and shewed him the Treaty which the Governor of Madras had contracted with me, of which (if you are desirous of it) I will send you a Copy for your Inspection. The Treaty I allude to declare, that my Enemies are the Company's, and the Company's Enemies mine; that the Company shall not protect the Enemies of my Government, and in like Manner, I shall not protect the Enemies of theirs; I therefore asked Colonel Upton, "whilst such a Treaty subsists, what is the Motive of giving Refuge to Ragonaut Row, the inveterate Enemy of my Government, and labouring at his Establishment?"—Colonel Upton replied, "The King of England, who has sent out a Company to Bengal (Council I suppose he means) did it solely with this View, that they might fully inform themselves of all the Treaties which had been contracted with every Power, and comply with the Terms of them."

It seems that the Nazim of Bengal is unacquainted with this Treaty, as I have received repeated Advice that the Design of establishing Ragonaut Row is again taken up, and that he is levying Armies: What can be the Design of this I cannot fully penetrate. When it is clearly expressed in the Treaty, that the Enemies of my Government are the Enemies of the Company, and the Enemies of the Company my Enemies, to what can I attribute this Design, except your Ignorance that such Treaty exists, or by supposing that the Treaty being made by the Company at Madras, is not binding on the Company at Bombay: One or other of these Suppositions I must abide by. My Meaning in what I have above written is this; that if you have any Quarrel with Pundit Purdhaun, on any other Account than that of Ragonaut Row, it matters not to me, I have nothing to do with it; but if you engage in Hostilities with Pundit Purdhaun on Account of Ragonaut Row, as I am inviolable in my Engagements, and am bound by a firm Treaty to Pundit Purdhaun in case Ragonaut Row makes War on him, it becomes my indispensable Duty, in consequence of such Engagement, to give my Assistance to Row Pundit Purdhaun: You will in such Case refer to the Treaty I have before alluded to. It was necessary to intimate these Particulars to you, and I have accordingly done so.

Should you ask, Why did the Rulers at Poona receive a French Vackel? the Answer is this: After the Departure of Colonel Upton, and his Arrival with you, fresh Advices were received, that Preparations were making at Bombay to bring back Ragonaut Row. In the mean Time a French Vackel arriving at Poona, in consequence of the Reports which prevailed universally that Ragonaut Row was again becoming formidable, the Poona Ministers detained him with them, arguing thus: If the Peace established by Colonel Upton is preserved, it is well; in case it should be broken, it is political to have the French Vackel. On these Grounds they detained him, notwithstanding which, when I heard it I wrote to them in the strongest Terms, on the Impropriety of their keeping a French Vackel with them, and they accordingly gave him his Dismission, and I doubt not he is already set off.

A P P E N D I X, N° 75.

To the Nabob Nizam ul Dowlah: Written 24th July.

YOUR friendly Letter arrived in a fortunate Hour, and made me happy by its Contents. You write— [Here follows a Repetition of the Substance of this Letter.]

The Fact is this: It is now more than a Year since an Agent from the Court of France arrived at

A P P E N D I X, N° 75, 76.

Poona, and commenced a Negotiation with the Ministers there, for the Formation of an Alliance between the French and the Marattas; nearly about the same Time we were informed, by authentic Advices from England, that the King of France had formed the Plan of an Alliance with the Marattas, for the Purpose of assisting him in his Hostilities against the English; and we have since received a certain Knowledge, that Engagements have actually been executed between the Ministers of Poona and the French Agent, in consideration of which the latter is to bring a Force of Europeans and Military Stores to Poona; and this Engagement subsists, notwithstanding the Friendship which was contracted between the Maratta State and the Company, and notwithstanding the Changes which have taken place in that Administration; of this I repeat that I have a certain Knowledge: In the mean Time War has been declared between the English Nation and the French. The Fore-knowledge of all these Circumstances induced me to prepare a Force to be sent to Bombay, not for the Support of Ragonaut Row, to whom this Government is under no Engagement, nor to make War with the Ministers with whom we are in Friendship, but in Conformity to the Duties incumbent on this Government, charged with the Care and Protection of all the English Possessions in India, for the Purpose of securing the Presidency of Bombay, which is now exposed to a War with our declared Enemies the French, and may be also involved in one with the Marattas, for such are their apparent Designs. If these Designs really exist, we shall certainly oppose them with all our Power; and the Ministers, by making themselves our Enemies, are also yours, and by Treaty you are bound to oppose them as such, not to take a Part with them: If, on the contrary, the Designs attributed to them have been erroneously surmised, or they, refraining from the Dictates of Fnnity and bad Faith, should relinquish them, we shall undertake nothing prejudicial to their Interests, but our Friendship and the successful Operation of our Arms will eventually prove a Benefit to them. The Sum of all I have said is this: We are the Friends of the Peishwa and of the Ministers of Poona, and shall continue whilst they are our Friends; we shall be their Enemies, if they compel us to be such by becoming our Enemies; and you, by the Treaty which you have quoted, and the Precepts which you have prescribed for my Conduct, will remain their Friend, or become their Enemy, from the same Causes.

As I wish to preserve inviolable the Friendship and Engagements which subsist between you and the Company, I have thought proper to give you this Explanation of my Conduct, and have no Doubt but you, actuated by the same Motives, will adopt such Measures as may tend to the Confirmation and daily Increase of our Friendship, which must be attended with the greatest mutual Advantages.

Knowing me ever anxious for your Welfare, let me frequently have the Pleasure to hear from you.

A P P E N D I X, N° 76.

From Nizam ul Dowlah: Received 28th January 1779.

I Have received the Letter you did me the Favour to write, and perfectly understand the Contents of what you say in Reply to my former Letter, as well as on the Subject of your Determination to preserve the Faith of former Treaties; your having no Intention to support Ragonaut Row, or Wish to engage in Hostilities with the Poona Ministers.

The good Faith I have found in the Company exceeds what I have experienced from any other Power, and imagining that you might not be acquainted with all the Treaties executed by the Company, I formerly wrote you full Information on that Head, and God be praised you are steady and firm in your Adherence to former Treaties! With respect to what you write on the Subject of Ragonaut Row, the Conduct you have pursued is such as the Faith of Treaty required.

I formerly in the strongest Terms desired the Poona Ministers not to give Encouragement to the French Vackel: They are now ashamed of their Conduct, and have not the least Idea of connecting themselves with the French; but should the least Symptom of such a Design be proved on them, I will give immediate Information to you, and withdraw myself from my Engagements with them; you may be perfectly assured of this.

Let me frequently have the Pleasure to hear from you the Events and Occurrences of that Quarter.

A P P E N D I X, N° 77.

Enclosures in a Letter from Mr. Moslyn : Received 31st July 1778.

N° 1. Copy of a Letter from Balajee Jennarjam to Nizam ul Dowlah.

THE Disturbances on Foot owe their Rise to certain Persons who set Justice at Defiance, and have invited Dada from Bombay ; but your sacred Mind may be perfectly satisfied that they will effect nothing, for Siccaram Baboo is joined with me : I hope that when I require Troops from you, you will dispatch Zuffer ul Dowlah Bahadre to this Quarter with the greatest Expedition, and that your Highness will repair in Person to Aurungabad, and canton there ; that awed and terrified by your Vicinity, no Person may be able to get Head ; the ambitious English will not effect any Thing : We shall manage the English by Means of the French, whose Vaceel is with us, with whom we have entered into a Treaty. After the present Disturbances are quelled, we shall call in his Troops, and act in the most vigorous Manner, to be a future Example to others. You will learn further Particulars from the Arzee of Kishen Row Billal. I have nothing to add but Assurances of my Respect.

N° 2. Copy of a Treaty concluded through the Vaceel Monsieur St. Lubin, by Balajee Jennajun, as follows :

After an End is put to the Disturbances of Moojee Pundit, which will shortly be easily effected, you shall call Forces from your own Country, and in Conjunction with the Army of Seremunt Sahib, which shall join you, you will act in the most vigorous Manner ; for which Service a Jaghire shall be bestowed on you from the Peshwa's Sirkar : But you must remain quiet at present ; the Opportunity of acting will shortly present itself, and the Nation which has presumptuously set itself up and adopted Maxims of Injustice, and by its Influence protected many Persons who set Right at Defiance, shall be properly dealt with, and receive the Punishment due to their Actions : Dated the 15th of Rubbee Assane in the 19th Year of the Reign, or 13th of May Anno Domini 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 78.

Intelligence from the Decan ; received the 23d of June 1778.

RAGONAUT Row, before he began his March from Bombay, dispatched Ummajee Mahadar to Hyder Naig, informing him, that the English of Bombay were of his Party ; and that, if he wished to promote his Interest, he would march from the Jungbudder, and join him ; and by Means of their united Force, his Affairs would be satisfactorily concluded. Hyder Naig replied, That he was then engaged in a War, but that as soon as it was at an End, he would attend to his Interests. Ummajee Mshadoa is still with him, (3d of Rubbee Assane, 1st May.)

Siccaram Pundit, Nanna Purnaveele, &c. have written to Hurry Pundit Purdeea and Sindia. It appears that they can do nothing without the Concurrence of Hurry Pundit Purdeea, who is become very powerful, having near 60,000 Horse with him, exclusive of the Force under Sindia and Dhoosa. Nanna Purnaveele and Hurry Pundit are in their Hearts united in the Design to keep the Government in the Hands of Mhadoo Row, the Son of Narrain Row, and to give the Dewanny to Bajee Row, the Son of Ragonaut Row, an Infant of Three Years old, with Moraba Purnaveele for his Naib, and to leave the Administration in the Hands of Ragonaut Row, until Madho Row and Bajee Row arrive at the Age of Maturity ; but that he shall conduct the Business with the Advice of Nanna Purnaveele and Siccaram Pundit, to keep up an Union amongst the several Chiefs, and to transact the Business on the former Plan.

A P P E N D I X, N° 79.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 18th July 1778.

THE Governor General—As the Time will not admit of any Delay in raising the Three Battalions of Sepoys, which are to be maintained by Rajah Chet Sing, I propose that the Commander in Chief be desired to give Orders immediately for that Purpose.

Agreed to. The following Letter is therefore written to Brigadier General Stibbert.

To Brigadier General Giles Stibbert.

Sir,

We have already acquainted you with our Resolution, to cause Three Battalions of Sepoys to be raised and maintained at the Expence of Rajah Chet Sing, for the Defence of the Company's Possessions: As the present Crisis will not admit of Delay, we request that you will give the necessary Orders for raising and forming these Corps with all possible Expedition.

We are, &c.

Fort William,
18th July 1778.

To Rajah Chite Sing: D^r.

War having been declared between the Courts of Great Britain and France, by the former on the 18th of March, or 18th of Suffer, and by the latter on the 30th of March, or 1st of Rubbee-ul-awal 1192, Hejeree, I am to request of you, in my own Name and that of the Board, as a Subject of the Company, bound to promote their Interest on every Occasion, to contribute your Share of the Burden of the present War, which will equally affect your Interest and ours. It has been determined by the Board, that an Establishment of Three regular Battalions of Sepoys, to be commanded by British Officers, be raised and maintained at your Expence, and employed on such Service as the Situation of Affairs may require. I have no Doubt but, regarding this Measure equally conducive to your own and the Company's Interest, you will with the greatest Readiness comply; and I hope you will intimate your Content without Delay.

From Maha Raja Chite Sing; received 30th July 1778.

I have been honoured by the Receipt of your gracious Letter, communicating the Intelligence of a War having broke out between the Courts of Great Britain and France; and desiring me to take on myself a Share of the Burden of Expence. My Patron, I am the Servant of the Sirkar. I will write you more fully hereafter. On all Occasions I am hopeful of your Highness Favour and Support.

A P P E N D I X, N° 80.

From Rajah Chite Sing: Received 28th September 1778.

I HAVE been honoured by your gracious Letter, desiring that I will as a Subject of the Company, take on myself the Payment of Five Lacks of Muchledar Rupees, as my Proportion of the Expence of the present War, and pay them to Mr. Graham: Although I have no Ability left, and the great Burden of Expence I laboured under from the Time of the Decease of the late Rajah, till the Expiration of the Nabob's Vizier's Authority over me is well known to God and your Excellency; yet solely with a View to a Compliance with your Orders, and to prove my Fidelity, having sold and pledged every thing belonging to me, I will make good the aforesaid Sum in Instalments in Six or Seven Months. Although by parting with my Effects, which are clearly necessary, I am left in a

A P P E N D I X, N° 80, 81.

State of Inability for the future, yet you will shew me such Favour, that I shall again recover myself.

As a Time is required for the State of my Effects, and raising the Money, I hope from your Kindness, that the Officers of Government may take from me in different Payments the said Sum in Sonaut Rupees; as I shall not be able to procure this Sum in Muchledar Rupees; and that you will be graciously pleased to affix your Signature to my Requests, that I may apply myself with Satisfaction and Affiduity to the Busines of the Sirkar.

To Rajah Chite Sing : D^o.

I have been favoured with your Letter, intimating your Consent to the Requisition made to you by this Government as a Subject of the Company, to bear a Part of the Expence of the present War: I am pleased with your ready Compliance; of this indeed I could have no Doubt, as your Interest is equally concerned with the Company's in the Success of it. The Expence of keeping up Three regular Battalions has been calculated, and found to amount to Five Lacks of Rupees per Annum, at which Rate your annual Subsidy has been accordingly fixed; I am therefore to desire in the Name of this Government, that you will pay immediately to Mr. Thomas Graham the Sum of Five Lacks of Muchledar Rupees. Thus you will perform your Duty to the Company, and secure their Favour and Support.

A P P E N D I X, N° 81.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 4th May 1778.

P R E S E N T,
The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

R E A D the following Letters and Enclosure from the Resident at the Nabob's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I do myself the Honour to enclose you Muster Returns of his Excellency the Vizier's Body Guard, and the Three Battalions commanded by Major Hannay, for the Month of February last.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
20th March 1778.

(Signed) Nath^l Middleton,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

Enclosed I have the Honour to transmit you my Accounts for the Hindoo Month of Faugun, or from the 12th February to the 13th March 1778, English Stile, agreeably to the accompanying List.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
4th April 1778.

(Signed) Nath^l Middleton,
Resident at the Vizier's Court.

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I have been duly honoured with your Commands of the 9th March; and have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that after being fully assured by Mr. Barwell of Fyzoola Cawn's neither keeping any considerable Force, holding improper Correspondence or Connections, or appearing in any Respect to have violated the Engagements he entered into in his Treaty with the late Nabob Sujah ul Dowla, I communicated to the Vizier the Honourable Board's Permission to me to guarantee on the Part of the Honourable Company, the Treaty subsisting between him and Fyzoola Cawn; provided his Excellency should give his Concurrence to that Permission.

The Nabob having approved of the Purposes of Mr. Barwell's Mission, and being assured from his Report, and other concurrent Circumstances, that Fyzoola Cawn's Conduct furnished no Grounds of

A P P E N D I X, N° 81, 82.

of Accusation by which he could be justified in an Infringement of the Rights confirmed to him by Treaty, readily and without Hesitation consented to a Renewal of the Treaty under Guarantee of the Honourable Company only, signifying his Expectations that some complimentary Present, conformable to constant Custom, and suitable to his Rank, should be made him by Fyzoola Cawn on the Delivery of the Khelaut: As I could not entertain a Doubt from Fyzoola Cawn's Anxiety for the Completion of this Business under the Sanction of the Honourable Board, but that he would of his own Accord be ready to shew the Vizier such Marks of Gratitude and Respect as would manifest his due Consideration of the great Obligation conferred on him, I presumed to assure his Excellency he might certainly expect to receive on the Occasion an Acknowledgment not disparaging to his Rank and Dignity, nor betraying in Fyzoola Cawn a deficient Sense of the Benefits he derived from an Alliance with his Excellency. From what I was able to discover in my Conversation with the Vizier, I have Reason to believe he looks not to any Sum which could be considered as a pecuniary Acquisition, but confines his Expectations merely to such complimentary Nuzzers as are usually offered in Token of Respect by a subordinate to a superior Power on similar Occasions: I have therefore taken upon me to desire Mr. Barwell to represent this Matter in its proper Light to Fyzoola Cawn; and I have no Doubt but that Chief's Concurrence in whatever may be reasonable and proper, will close the Negotiation in a Manner entirely satisfactory to the Vizier.

I have the Honour to enclose for your Perusal Copies of the Vizier's Treaty with Fyzoola Cawn, and of the Obligation which I have entered into in consequence of the Authority you were pleased to delegate to me on the Part of the Honourable Company; and for your more particular Information. I must also beg Leave to trouble you with a complete Transcript of my Correspondence with Mr. Barwell on the Subject of his Mission, commencing with my original Instructions, which I hope will meet with the Honourable Board's Approbation.

In Obedience to your Commands I have reserved a Sum in my Hands amounting to Ten Lacks of Rupees, for the Use of the Detachment under Orders of March for Bombay, which I am converting as fast as I possibly can into Gold Mohurs; but so small is the Circulation of Gold Currency in these Parts, and so much is it the Practice among Men of Property to hoard it up, as Riches easily concealed, that I am afraid I shall not be able to procure any considerable Amount within the Time it may be wanted. The Honourable Board however will please to rest assured that no Endeavours or Assiduity on my Part shall be wanting to secure as large a Sum as possible; as Gold Coinage, from the Facility of Carriage, must be infinitely preferable to Silver Specie, which would be extremely bulky and difficult of Conveyance.

The Reservation of so considerable a Sum for the Service of the Bombay Detachment has necessarily frustrated my Intention of making the Honourable Board an immediate Remittance; however as the Season of the heavy Collections is now arrived, and the Harvest to all Appearance a very promising one, I flatter myself I shall shortly have replenished my Treasury, so as to admit of my carrying my former Intention into Effect, leaving a Sufficiency for the Exigencies of the Current Service.

I have, &c.

Lucknow,
10th April 1778.

(Signed)

Nath^d Middleton.

A P P E N D I X, N° 82.

From Nejif Khan; received 10th August 1778.

A Long Space of Time has elapsed since I have had the Pleasure to hear from you, which gives the greatest Pain to a Heart which abounds with Affection for you, and to which the News of your Welfare would communicate the greatest Pleasure. I hope from your sincere Regard for me, that you will number me amongst your most zealous Friends, and will frequently make me happy by your Letters.

In the Course of last Year you were kindly pleased to dispatch Major Hannay, to strengthen and confirm the Ties between us. The Wars in which I was then engaged with Zabita Khan, the Seiks and Marattas, would not admit of my dismissing a certain Person, or of my inviting Major Hannay to come to me and acting agreeably to the Pleasure of the English Chiefs. From these Events the Negotiations commenced last Year were suspended.

As I am desirous at all Times and on all Occasions to comply with the Will of the illustrious Chiefs, to which I will never act contrary, I request that you will now give Directions to Major Hannay to repair to me without Delay. God willing, on his Arrival, every Thing shall be done agreeable to the Will of the illustrious Chiefs. My Zeal and Attachment to the Company is firmly rooted in my Heart. Your Excellency may be fully assured that I will never take any Step which

A P P E N D I X, N^o 82.

may be disagreeable to the illustrious Chiefs; and if the Circumstances and particular Occurrences of the Times, all the Particulars of which are well known to you, necessarily caused a Delay in my Compliance with the Wishes of the illustrious Chiefs, you must not impute it to me as a Fault. I am with my whole Heart and Soul attached to the Company, from whom I have also Expectations of great Advantages. How can it then be supposed that I would act in such a Manner as to destroy them? Your Excellency may rely on this with the most implicit Confidence, and send Major Hannay, when every thing shall be conducted agreeably to your Wishes.

Knowing me entirely attached to you, I hope that till I have the Happiness of a Meeting with you, you will favour me with frequent Letters and Commissions, which will be the Cause of the greatest Joy to me.

Intelligence of Transactions at the Royal Durbar, from the 1st of Rujjub to the 4th, or from the 26th to the 29th of July; received the 20th August.

A News-paper was presented from the Camp of Nejif Cooley Khan, mentioning, that the said Khan had taken from the Fort of Shaheepore several Pieces of Artillery, and a Magazine of Grain, and had distributed the latter amongst his Sepoys; that having given the Fort into the Charge of one of his Creatures, an Afghan, he marched from thence with Afrascal Khan, against the Fort of Kaesur, where the Sons of Chatter Jaut reside, who not being able to oppose him, commenced a Negotiation for the Payment of a further Tribute, which is not yet concluded.

An Arzie was then presented from the Nabob Mujed-ul-Dowlah, setting forth, that the Nabob Zoolsikar-ul-Dowlah had conceived a Hatred to him, and was coming to the Presence with a Determination to prosecute his evil Intentions against him; that this Circumstance, joined to the Clamours of the Sepoys and the Servants of the Mohul, had placed him in the most alarming Situation. His Majesty having perused it, replied, the Servants of the Mohul, &c. will undoubtedly insist on the Payment of their Dues, and with respect to his Accusation of the Nabob Zoolsikar-ul-Dowlah, why does he act in such Manner as to draw on himself his Hatred and Resentment, he points himself out as the Object of his Vengeance; we are therefore remediless. At this Instant News was brought that the Sepoys had surrounded the House of the Nabob Mujed-ul-Dowlah in a clamorous Manner, on which his Majesty sent a Message to Litafut Ally Khan, to go and appease the Disturbance; soon after which an Arzie was presented from the Nabob Mujed-ul-Dowlah, that Litafut Ally Khan had quelled the Disturbance, but that he had no Money in his Hands from whence to pay them their Arrears, and that notwithstanding he had made the most pressing Instances to the Jewellers to lend Money on the Royal Jewels to receive them in Pawn, agreeable to his Majesty's Directions for raising Money for defraying the Expence of the Nuptials of the Princesses, they had absolutely refused to lend any Money on them. His Majesty having read it, said, It is plain that Mujed-ul-Dowla's evil Day is arrived. Hissum-ul Dowlah made Attempts of the same Nature, and met with the Chastisement of his Demerits. Mujed-ul Dowlah has acted treacherously, and embezzled the Income of the Provinces, and when having no other Resource we ordered our Jewels to be deposited and Money raised on them, he has contrived to frustrate his Intent. It is plain from this that he designs to ruin himself after the Example of Hissum-ul-Dowlah.

Intelligence of Mujed-ul-Dowlah.

At a Mustar taken of the Sepoys there were great Clamours for their Arrears, and many of the Najeeb Sepoys insisted on immediate Payment from Rosse Khan their Chief, over whom they placed a Guard. The Nabob being alarmed stationed Guards at his House, with Orders to oppose and chastise any of the Nejib Sepoys who should attempt to enter; on hearing this a Party of them went and attacked the House and penetrated to the Burradery; in this Dilemma the Nabob sent to Litafut Ally Khan, who came and appeased the Rioters with a Promise of full Payment in Three Months, and the Distribution of 16,000 Rupees amongst them in Part of their Arrears.

Untajee and Babojee Holcar have excused their not repairing to the Presence immediately, having their Hands full of Business, and promised to go as soon as they have Leisure; this is a great Disappointment to Mujed-ul-Dowlah, who told their Vackel that if they came before the Arrival of Nejif Khan they might obtain what they pleased, but after that Event their coming would be needless.

Goolloo, the Eunuch, brought more Jewels from his Majesty, with a Message to Mujed ul Dowlah to borrow 30,000 Rupees on those and the former Jewels, and to deposit them with the Lender. The Nabob lent for Jewellers, and again pressed them to lend Money on them; but they would on no Account consent, saying they would never agree to receive the Royal Jewels in Pawn; that they had much rather be banished the City.

The Nabob Nejif Khan set out from Deeg for Ackberabad on the 3d of Rujjub, 28th of July, and arrived there on the 5th of Rujjub, or 30th July.

A P P E N D I X, N° 82; 84.

Intelligence of the Nabob Asoph ul Dowlah, from the 5th to the 8th of Rujjub, from 30th of July to the 2d of August.

The Nabob is highly displeased against Hossein Reza Khan and Hyder Khan : Mr. Middleton spoke to him in their Favour, and was answered by the Nabob, "These Two unfaithful Wretches have ruined both my Family and my Dominions ; speak not in their Favour." The Nabob then directed Meaun Ulmaus to appoint Officers of his own, and send them into the Districts under his charge, and to pay a Nuzzir of 10 Lacks of Rupees, and he would appoint him to the Niabut in the room of Hossein Reza Khan. Meaun Ulmaus half consented, but it is not yet certain what will be the Event.

(Note, There is no Appendix N° 83, the Subject Matter being inserted elsewhere.)

A P P E N D I X, N° 84.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 31st August 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

READ the following Letters from Colonel Leslie :

Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

I beg Leave to transmit you herewith a Duplicate of my Address to you of the 13th instant ; since that Period little Alteration has happened in this Quarter.

The Troops of Anrood Sing, alarmed by the Swelling of the Kaine from the heavy Rains that have lately fallen, precipitately crossed the River, with Intentions to cover the Road to Panna ; and they have posted themselves between the Pabs of Moncaow and the Bed of the River, having thrown Entrenchments with strong Breast Works along the opposite Bank, to defend the Passage of the River. The Rajah himself is there with his principal Ministers and Officers, and Himut Cawn, who is the Chief Sirdar at Mhow, has joined him with most of his Troops. By all Accounts they are great Consternation at the ill Success of their treacherous Designs. Their Troops are much disheartened by the Loss they suffered at Mhow, and are much disgusted at their being kept in the Field during this Season, labouring under the Want of Provisions and of Cash : They have even declared they will not stand an Attack of our Troops, whatever their Chiefs may wish to undertake.

Ballajee is, I am informed, making Preparations to receive me on the Sagur Route ; and I have had very certain Intelligence, that a Freebooter, formerly in the Service of Janoojee, is on his March to join Ballajee with a Body of near 5,000 Cavalry.

Yesterday Evening I received an Express from Mr. Boddam, Chief of Surat, covering a Letter from the Bombay Presidency. They contain News of a molt interesting Nature to the Company's Affairs ; and lest any Delay should happen in the Consequence of this Intelligence immediately to Calcutta, I deemed it necessary to transmit Copies of them to the Honourable the Governor General, by an express Coffid last Night. Authenticated Copies of these Letters I now do myself the Honour to lay before the Board.

My Train of Carriages have undergone a thorough Repair during my Stay here, and I am using all Speed in compleating my Deficiencies of Draft and Carriage Cattle. A very few Days will enable me to prosecute my March, I hope, as I now only wait the collecting the small Stock of Grain to attend my Camp ; which Precaution appears absolutely necessary by the Steps Ballajee taking to obstruct my Advance, and the Junction of these Troops will afford him a greater Opportunity of attempting it. You may depend on my utmost Attention to the Wish expressed in the Bombay Presidency's Letter in using all Expedition ; and every Faculty of mine shall be exerted, effect as speedy an Advance as can be made through a Tract of Country yet but little known, and the Delays I must expect to encounter at this Season of the Year, by the Swelling of the many Nullas and Rivers, which this Country abounds with.

I am, with the highest Respect,

&c. &c.

(Signed) Matt^r Leslie.

Chatterpore,
25th July 1778.

REP. VI.

A P P E N D I X, N° 84, 85.

Secret Department.

To Colonel Leslie : Received July 24th Noon.

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 14th May, and hope soon to hear you are well advanced on your March.

Mr. Mostyn has obtained from Tookajee Holcar, and transmitted to you, Orders for the Passage of the Army under your Command through his Dominions ; so that we flatter ourselves you will meet with no Obstructions or Impediments in your March to this Place.

We have no further Instructions or Information to add to those contained in our Letter of the 5th Instant, already forwarded by Seven different Routes, only that you will pursue your March with all possible Diligence, which we doubt not will be accelerated by a Circumstance Mr. Bodcar will apprise you of, and to which you will give full Credit. We do not mention it ourselves, there being less Danger of a Letter from Surat being intercepted, and it does not appear you are furnished with a Cypher.

We are your most obedient humble Servants,

(Signed)

Bombay Castle,
19th June 1778.

W. Ashburner,

And^r Ramsay,

W^m Hornby,
John Carnac,
D^r Draper,
Henry Moore,
N^t Stackhouse.

A true Copy.

(Signed) Matt^r Leslie.

A P P E N D I X, N° 85.

Letter from the Governor General and Council.

Received at
Bombay, 27th
Sept. 1778.
Sel. Cons.

Gentlemen,

WE have received your Letters, dated the 25th ultimo, by the Terrible.

That no Time may be lost in conveying our Sentiments to you, we send this by different Routes, to acquaint you, that we approve your Resolution of the 21st July, and authorize you to assist Ragoba with a Military Force, to conduct him to Poona, and to establish him in the Regency there, on the following express Provisions :

First. That it do not interfere with any Engagement formed with Moodajee Bouncello by Mr. Elliott, and previous Notice to you by him.

Second. That your latest Advices from Europe shall be equal to an Assurance, that the Forces required for this Service may be spared, without endangering the Safety of Bombay, in the Event of a French Invasion.

Third. That the Engagement you may form with Ragoba himself, or Moraba and his Associates be not contrary to those concluded with Moodajee by Mr. Elliott, and noticed to you ; nor of a hostile Tendency to the Government of Berar.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,

Warren Hastings,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler.

Fort William,
17th August 1778.

P. S. We have received the Letters from the President and Council, dated 31st May, 3, 12, 15, and 25 June, and 6th July.

A P P E N D I X, N° 86.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bombay: Dated 14th March 1778; received in London 29th July 1778.

Par. 2. ENCLOSED is Duplicate of our Address by that Ship * in the Secret Department. We * The French therein fully mentioned the Overtures which had been made to us through Mr. Lewis, for the Assistance of the Company to carry Ragoba to Poona, and our Reasons for not proceeding further in the Business.

3. We have since had the Satisfaction of receiving the most complete Sanction and Approbation of the Governor General and Council, to the Plan and Principle upon which we had determined to proceed; which that you may the more clearly comprehend, we enclose a Copy of our Minutes, and of the Letter and Resolutions of the Governor General and Council in consequence.

4. The Failure of this promising Scheme may in a great Measure be ascribed to the Distrust entertained by Ragoba's Friends, of our Want of Power to fulfil our Engagements. Moraba's Words to Mr. Lewis were " If we enter into Business, let us go through it heartily; let there be no Excuse " on the Part of the Governor and Council afterwards, that they have received Orders to make a " Peace, as they did before." This Objection may be now entirely removed, if the Party are sincere in the Attachment they have professed for Ragoba, and are really desirous of the Company's Assistance to conduct him to Poona. We therefore transmitted to Mr. Mostyn, on the 10th Instant, a Copy of the Resolutions of the Governor General and Council, and have not heard from him since.

5. The Necessity of taking some Measures to anticipate the Designs of the French, and to counteract the Party in the Poona Government, inimical to the Company, appears every Day more imminent. The Governor General and Council's Approbation is too much confined to the particular Plan proposed to them, without giving us any more general Latitude to act as Circumstances might require, which we had very strongly pressed them to do; so that at last we may be obliged either to hazard the Consequences of acting without Authority from them, or passively behold the very Existence of the Company endangered, without making an Effort to preserve it.

10. From Mr. Mostyn's Advices there appears little or no Prospect of the disputed Articles of the Treaty being adjusted, or of obtaining Satisfaction on any one of the Points given in Charge to him; of which indeed we almost give up all Hopes whilst the present Government subsists.

11. Your Servants at Madras have acquainted us, in a Letter dated the 15th January, that they did not think it safe or prudent to spare the Whole or any Part of the Force we had wrote for; because, as they say, the present Posture of Affairs gives them Reason to apprehend a War with France, and their Establishment was incomplete and insufficient for the Defence of the Possessions belonging to the Nabob, the Company, and the Rajah of Tanjore, whom they had taken lately under their Protection; because the unfinished State of the Fortifications there and at Tanjore would render it unsafe to detach any Part of the Force stationed for their Security, even was their Establishment complete.

A P P E N D I X, N° 87.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 29th March 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, and Governor,
The W. John Carnac, Esquire, Daniel Draper,
Nath. Stackhouse, W^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ramsay.

Honourable Sir,

ADDRESSED you early Yesterday Morning, and this is purposely to advise you of the Revolution I have so long expected. About Noon Morabah accompanied by Chintoo Wittul and Farro, Supker's Son, with about 10,000 Horse, came and encamped on the other Side of the River, and immediately sent 50 Horse into Town, 25 of which went to the Palace, and the rest, through all the Streets, directing the Inhabitants in Ragoba's Name to open their Shops, and not to run away, on Pain of Punishment, for they had nothing to fear; the Appearance of so large a Force, without

A P P E N D I X, N° 87.

without knowing who they were, had put the Town into the utmost Confusion, and every Body was moving off as fast as possible; at 10 o'Clock Morabah came into Town, and went directly to the Palace to pay his Respects to Perwettybah, who immediately invested him with the Sirapan of Duan, and presented him with the Mutualick, Sicca, Cataree, Nobut, and Terree Putca; Morabah after removing all the old Chowkies out of the Palace, and placing his own People, also putting a Chowkie on the House of Nana's Duan, and receiving the Compliments of Vissagee Punt Beney, Sadafew Ramchunder, and Janabah, the Governor of the Town, being the only People of Consequence left, returned accompanied by them to his Tent on the other Side of the River. This Letter would have been dispatched in the Evening, but having sent my Man to Morabah with Compliments of Congratulation, and to learn what further Steps he intended to take, I waited for his Return. He is this Moment come, and gives me the following Particulars: On his Arrival at Morabah's Tent he found Morabah with Butchaba Pronder and Chintoo Wittul, were gone to meet Holcar, who is come and encamped about Three Cols off; that Sacram had left Pronder and reached Cowree about Six Cols distant, and would join Morabah in the Morning; that the Whole of their Forces now here amounted to 30,000; this Intelligence I have had confirmed by other Hands, with the Addition, that Crust Row Belal and Mbada Row Jada Roi, were both coming. On Morabah's Return from Holcar, my Man met him, but had only Time to give my Compliments, when Morabah desired him to stay; that he must go to his Victuals, having eat nothing all Day, come 15 Cols in the Morning, and been busy ever since; my Man waited until near 11 o'Clock, and finding he did not come out, sent to desire to speak to him; he was sent for, but there was such a Concours of People to pay their Respects, that Morabah could only return his Compliments, and request I would send him again in the Morning. I am also informed, that after all the Party is met they intend to march to Pronder; it may therefore be some Days before I see Morabah, unless he sends for me; in which Case I shall not hesitate going, as Sacram and in short the whole of the Government except Nannah, are here. I do suppose, they will determine soon to send some Persons of Consequence to Bombay to settle Matters and to attend Ragoba if he comes; in which Case it is probable they will desire me to accompany them, therefore to save Time I should be glad to have your Directions on this Point. I am sorry to find the Party are likely to succeed so easily, for I see no Resource Nannah has but to come into Morabah's Terms, or to fly into one of his Forts, which are Logur and Perletgur, but the latter is by most judged to be the Place; should Nannah condescend to make up Matters, I fear it may induce the Party to comply wholly with Ragoba's Treaty; and should Ragoba refuse to accept of their Invitation on any other Terms, Morabah and his Party may look upon themselves as absolved from the Oath they gave to Ragoba, which is the Reason of their having made this Effort, and think no more of them. Our Consideration seems now to be, whether it would not be more advantageous for the Company to recede something, and thereby fix Ragoba in the Government with a Body of our Troops, and remain in strict Friendship with the Maratta State, and consequently entirely shut out our natural Enemies the French, and all other Europeans, than by persisting in a full Compliance of the Treaty, have Ragoba thrown upon our Hands without any further Prospect; at Variance with this Government, leave all Hopes of any future Advantage from them even by the present Treaty, than what we are in absolute Possession of, and give them an Opening to admit the French or any other Power they please. This is only conjectural, and what has occurred to me may be the Case; for I cannot tell what may be their ultimate Resolutions on this Head until I talk with them.

The Revolution has set the French Captain at Liberty to come here; I saw him this Evening, and he tells me he has received a Letter from Monsieur Picott, dated Myhie the 29th January, informing him that his Ship would leave Pondicherry the 5th February, in Company with the Brilliante; that Monsieur Belcombe was on board the latter, and purposed proceeding in her up the Coast as high as Surat, where he intends staying the Rains. I know not what may be his Views, but by the Time he reaches Myhie he will have full Knowledge of Lubin's Conduct and Character here, not only from the Officer of the Vessel he sent up, but also from a Black Spy who talks French, he sent here in the Character of a Merchant, and who found Means to get to live with Lubin, by which Means he got at all his Proceedings. He also learnt from the Captain every Thing respecting him, and what passed between the Durbar and Lubin. Lubin at last heard this Man often visited the Captain, and suspecting his Errand, acquainted Nannah therewith, who directly ordered him to be watched and if possible seized; in consequence the Fellow was one Day pursued, but got off by running into the Captain's Houle and desired to be secreted; this raised the Captain's Curiosity, and he questioned the Man particularly; when he candidly confessed his Errand, and that he was employed by Belcombe, who having heard various Reports concerning Lubin and the Captain, sent him to know the Truth, and that he was ordered to meet Belcombe at Myhie; the Man further told the Captain he came to Poona in Company with Two Madras Pattamars bound to Bombay, who promised to call on him in their Way back; one of these Pattamars was seized, supposing him to be the Man, but Nannah finding his Mistake only kept him one Night, and next Morning sent him with a Guard out of Town, to prevent his making a Complaint to me; this Affair happened about Twelve Days ago. These Circumstances, with the Views of the Alteration in the Government, will I hope induce Belcombe to lay aside his Scheme of coming up to Surat. Monsieur Lubin has already met with some Disgrace by Morabah's taking away the Elephant lent him to carry his Colours; and I flatter myself he will soon be glad to quit Poona, unless detained by the Captain, who has Thoughts of complaining to Morabah for Money owing to him by Lubin,

A P P E N D I X, N° 87, 88.

bin and get him made a Prisoner; if the Captain cannot do this, he is in Hopes Bellcombe, who is Relation to Belfond the Owner of the Sartine, will stop at Choul and demand of the Government that Lubin be delivered up to him. I will use my Endeavours that Lubin be sent away before this can happen, otherwise it may lead to an Intercourse by no Means for our Interest.

As I do not intend to address you publicly until I have talked with Morabah or Saccaram Bappoo, or somebody for them, I beg you will be pleased to lay before the Board such Parts of this Letter as you may judge necessary and proper.

Poona,
the 27th March,
One o'Clock, Morning.

I am very respectfully,
Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Tho' Mostyn.

The following Letter to Mr. Mostyn was immediately signed and dispatched from the Council Table.

Sir,

The President has laid before us your Letter dated the 27th, at One in the Morning.

In the present unsettled State of the new Government, and until we receive more particular Advices from you, we cannot give any precise Directions for your Conduct; but as you are well acquainted with our Views and Sentiments, we do hereby empower you to act as you may think most consistent with those Views and the Interest of the Honourable Company, until we can give you more particular Instructions.

As it will be of the utmost Importance to effect the Dismissal of Monsieur Lubin from Poona before the Arrival of Monsieur Bellcombe, you will use your utmost Address to effect this Point; but in such a Manner as not to appear too anxious about it, which the new Government might endeavour to take Advantage of.

Bombay Castle,
29th March 1778.
6 P. M.

We are,
Your loving Friends,
William Hornby, &c.

A P P E N D I X, N° 88.

-- " *Bombay Secret Consultations, the 6th April 1778.*

P R E S E N T,
The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
The W. John Carnac, Esquire, Daniel Draper,
Nath. Stackhouse, Will^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ramsay.

R E A D the Letter received Yesterday from the Governor General and Council, &c.

If the French should now succeed in getting an Establishment at Choul, the Consequence must rest entirely with the Governor General and Council, as we have done every thing in our Power to defeat their Designs; not only by our repeated Representations at the Court of Poona, and our Application to Sir Edward Vernon, but by the Reference we made to the Governor General and Council, whether we should not pursue more active Measures, to prevent the Execution of a Plan so replete with Dangers to the Company's Possessions. Their Answer, now before us, confines our Efforts to an Appeal to the Maratta Government; and if that should fail of Success, the Consequences, as we said before, must rest with them.

The President lays before us, a Letter to him from Mr. Mostyn, as entered hereafter; by which we find there was to be a Meeting of the principal Members of the new Government about the 4th or 5th of this Month, when we may expect to receive Proposals respecting Ragoba, and be at more Certainty with regard to their Intentions, until when we cannot come to any direct Resolutions.

However, if the Terms expected by the Company should become a Subject of Discussion between Mr. Mostyn and Morabah, he must constantly give him to understand that we shall expect a full

A P P E N D I X, N° 33.

full Confirmation of the Grants made by Ragoba; it will be Time enough hereafter to relax in our Demands, if we should find it necessary.

The President acquainting us that Ragoba expresses much Impatience to go over to the Continent, and talks of setting off in a few Days, a Deputation must be sent, to represent to him the Impropriety of such Precipitation, and that Matters are not yet arrived at such a Stage, as to admit of his quitting Bombay with Prudence or Decorum; no Forces having yet marched from Poona to meet him, nor any Person of Consequence come to invite him. They must also observe to him, what will be proper to settle some Terms previous to his Departure, and receive what Offers he may make on the Occasion.

Messrs. Carnac and Ramsay are appointed a Committee for that Purpose, through whom all Intercourse with Ragoba must be conducted till Matters are settled.

Mr. James Sibbald is to act as Interpreter to the Committee, after being previously sworn to Secrecy.

Adjourned.

Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Secretary.

W^m Hornby,
John Carnac,
D. Draper,
N. Stackhouse,
W^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ranby.

Honourable Sir,

My last Respects were dated the 28th, and informed you Morabah, with the whole Army, had marched to Cowree to meet Sacram. Yesterday Morning they all proceeded to Currut River, and about Two Cosss from Pronder, and this Night at Eleven o'Clock, to my very great Mortification, I am from several Hands assured all Matters are accommodated; but in this Manner, they all are or chuse to appear ignorant, except a Carcoom belonging to Tombacker, who was directed to inform me of all that passed. He sends me Word, a Man from Tombacker arrived this Afternoon, and acquaints him, Nanah has agreed to every thing Morabah proposed regarding Ragoba; but insisted Sacram and Morabah should stand Security that his Life should be safe; that they were all to meet, and a general Reconciliation to take place this Afternoon, and To-morrow Afternoon the Child would be brought down to receive the Compliments of Morabah (who has never seen him) and of the other Ministers and Officers; and for this Purpose, Morabah To-day sent to Town for some Jewels and Clothes to present him; and in Three or Four Days after, he expected they would all come to Poona. He further says, that Sacram wanted to appoint People to the different Offices now, but Morabah desired it might be deferred until Ragoba came, when he would appoint whom he pleased. If this Man's Information is true, which I shall know To-morrow Night or next Morning, I do not expect to hear any thing from them until they come to Poona.

At Nine o'Clock this Evening I was honoured with your's and the Board's Command of the 29th. Be assured, Sir, I will exert every Nerve for the Benefit of my Employers. I am perfectly convinced of the Importance and Utility Bassin would be to us; but I very much fear this Government will not, on any Consideration, be brought to relinquish it; and we must wait and watch for a future Opportunity to accomplish this Point. The diabolical Scheme of Nanah to introduce the French, the most destructive one surely that could have been thought on for us, has totally changed our System of Politics; and it seems to me best at present, if we cannot do as we will, to do as well as we can; therefore I have been thinking, if we cannot do better, to endeavour to get Jamboolee made over in Perpetuity, in lieu of all Demands we have upon this Government, both for the Company on account of the late War, and for the Merchant Losses, and get rid of this endless Source of Dispute; as much more as we can for our Expences and Trouble on account of Ragoba since the War, and Security in Hand for any Troops we may aff^d Ragoba with; for they have not Money to give us. All this I mean exclusive of Upton's Treaty: I mention these Particulars, that no Time may be lost when I come to talk with Morabah, and wish to be favoured with your Sentiments on this Head.

I would wish that you would not permit Ragoba to come over, until I have talked and settled Matters with Morabah; but the Objection should appear to come from Ragoba, which he can with great Propriety make, by observing, that no one of sufficient Consequence was come over to accompany him; and I know no Force is yet come down to receive him. I am also pretty clear Morabah (if he can be believed) will not take any further Steps in this Business, without acquainting us; nor does he expect Ragoba will come over, without proper People being sent to receive him, or that he will trust himself without a Body of our Troops to accompany him the whole Way, and I think to remain I judge Two Battalions and a Train. As to Dada Punt, he wishes to distinguish himself; but Tombacker told me he was only sent with the Letters, and no Doubt he may be directed to sound the Ground, and possibly ordered to wait and come with Ragoba, but who I hope will not be in too great a Hurry; if he is, our Business may be ruined. I hope in a few Days to give you all Particulars, and think the Whole may be accomplished in a little more than a Month. I will take Care the necessary Orders are given for Bullocks, &c. I know not well what to do with the Chickley, &c. Purgunnahs: I could wish to have them deferred being settled for the present, as I know Morabah and

A P P E N D I X, N° 88, 89.

and Holkar mean to place Govind Row in the Guzerat Country. Possibly some lucky Circumstance may turn up from the Change, or that Ragoba will have Influence enough with Govind Row, to let us keep them.

You may depend I will use every Endeavour for the Knight's being dispatched, and with the necessary Precaution. Morabah, the Day he marched for Cowree, removed the old Guard, and placed one of his own, with Orders not to suffer any thing to be carried out of the Garden where he lives, but not to prevent his going about where he pleases. I hear he is keeping People at his own Expence; but this I believe is to protect himself against the Captain, who swears Vengeance against him.

The Letter from Morabah is delivered to Tombacker's Carcoon, who will forward it To-morrow Morning at Gun-fire.

Poona,
31st March,
Midnight.

I remain with much Respect,
Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Thomas Mostyn.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 7th April 1778.

Signed the following Letter to the Resident at the Durbar :

The President has laid before us your Letter, dated the 31st March; in consequence of which we think it necessary to direct that you do not at present give the Durbar any Hopes that we will recede in the least Degree from the Stipulations made for the Company, in the Treaty with Ragoba. It will be soon enough to relax from our Demands some Time hence, if we should find the same necessary.

We do not doubt your Diligence or Address; but our Anxiety on account of the French leads us to repeat our Directions, that you exert yourself to the very utmost to defeat their Designs. The Conduct of the new Members of the Durbar on this Occasion will be a Criterion to us to judge of their Dispositions towards the Company.

Bombay Castle,
7th April 1778.

We are
Your loving Friends,
William Hornby, &c.

A P P E N D I X, N° 89.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 10th April 1778.

RECEIVED the following Letter from Mr. Mostyn at Poona :

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
My last Respects were dated the 6th, and early this Morning I was favoured with your Commands, of the 7th.

On the 8th I received a Letter from the Durbar, sealed with the Maratta Sicca, requesting I would repair to his Camp with all possible Expedition; I accordingly arrived the same Evening. Yesterday Afternoon I had a Meeting with Morabah, when he informed, that the Reason for the Durbar sending for me, was to request I would accompany Gopul Naigue Tumbacker, who they were going to send to Bombay with Proposals regarding Ragoba; to which I replied, I thought it was proper the Durbar should inform your Honour, &c. thereof in Writing; which he promised should be done. This Afternoon Morabah sent to request I would meet him at Sacram Bappoo's Tent; accordingly, a short Time after he had passed I set out, but before I had reached Sacram's Camp they had gone to Nannah's Encampment close to Pronder Hill, whither Tumbacker desired I would also go. On my Arrival Nannah received me in the Public Tent, where he desired I would wait a few Minutes, as the Durbar were in Council. In a short Time I was introduced, when I found the Durbar assembled in Form, viz. Butchaba Pronder, Sacram Bappoo, Morabah Furneese, Nannah Furneese, Crust Row Belil, Nuda Row Sadá Roi, Gopal Naigue Tumbacker, Buchaba's Brother, and Crust Row's Son. After the usual Compliments, Sacram began the Conversation by saying, that the Durbar had formerly requested I would go to Bombay on some Business for them, and they now made Request I would accompany a Person they were going to send to Bombay on the Business which Morabah had already acquainted me with; to which I made the same Answer as I had done to Morabah, when

A P P E N D I X, N° 89, 90.

when they delivered me the enclosed Letter for the Honourable the President, referring me to Mr. Rabah for further Particulars on this Business. Sacram then said, that the Durbar had received a Letter from the Governor General, mentioning his having been informed that this Government had given a Port to the French, and appointed Monsieur St. Lubin to the Charge of the Tope Kunta here; he therefore asked me, if to my Knowledge such was the Case? I replied, that no such Circumstances had to my Knowledge taken place, but that I was not surprized the Governor General and Council, finding the Durbar, notwithstanding their solemn Promises to dispatch us last December had detained him until this Time, shoud believe such was the Case. I then desired they would inform me what were their real Motives with respect to the French; when Sacram replied, that they then had under Consideration the dispatching Monsieur St. Lubin. I have also received Assurance from Morabah, both Yesterday and this Evening, since his Return to his Tent, that this Point shall be settled as we wish.

I shall strictly obey your Commands, with respect to not giving the Durbar any Hopes of your Honour, &c. receding in the least from the Treaty entered into with Ragoba; indeed, I have endeavoured to instil this Idea into the Minds of the Ministers, and have always recommended, as the most eligible Method, their sending a proper Person to settle Affairs both with your Honour, &c. and Ragoba at Bombay; which you will please to observe by the foregoing I have effected, and hope my Conduct will meet with your Approbation.

I am, very respectfully,

Camp near Curret,
10th April 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Thomas Mostyn.

A P P E N D I X, N° 90.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 16th April 1778.

RECEIVED the following Letter from Mr. Mostyn.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I have been honoured with your Commands of the 8th Instant.

Before the Receipt of your Letter, a Pair of Pattamars, dispatched from the Presidency of Madras on the 3d, acquainted me that they had been stopped at Baramooty, and sent from thence to Morabah, who had ordered them to me. I immediately sent the Linguist to represent to him that this was the Second Time our Pattamars had been stopped since the late Change in Government, and requested he would prevent the like in future; to which he replied, that he was extremely sorry it had so happened, but that he having given Orders to stop all Letters, to prevent an improper Correspondence from the other Party, and his having forgot in the Hurry of Business to except English Letters, his Chowkies had of course intercepted them; he had however issued the necessary Orders for our Pattamar's passing freely. The Pattamars, your Honour, &c. mention to have been stopped at Baramooty, came to me at Poona; I asked them particularly if any Letters had been taken out of the Packet? when they declaring there had not, and that only the Wax-cloth Covering had been opened, I directed them to proceed to Bombay; however on the 12th Instant, in conformity to your Orders at a Meeting I had with Morabah, I made a Second Representation to him, and asked him if he had taken any Letters from those Pattamars? when he repeated his Assurances of the foregoing Day, and declared he had not taken any Letter, nor did he know of any one else doing so.

The Durbar having been much engaged for some Days past, I had not an Opportunity of meeting with Tumbacker until this Morning, when he assured me, that he should be invested with full Powers to settle both with your Honour, &c. and Ragoba; that a full Durbar is to be held To-morrow for his final Instructions and Dispatch; that he is to leave this Place To-morrow Night, and after staying a Day or Two at most at Poona, shall proceed with all Expedition to the Presidency by the Way of Tannah, in order to avoid going in a Boat.

I am, very respectfully,

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Tho^s Mostyn.

Camp near Curret,
14th April 1778.

Bombay

A P P E N D I X, N° 90. N° 92.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 20th April 1778.

Received the following Letter from the Resident at Poona.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I addressed you last on the 14th Instant, and not having heard any Thing from Morabah concerning Tumbacker's leaving the Camp, notwithstanding his Assurances that he should do so as the next Evening, on the 16th at Night I sent to request Morabah would inform me the Reason thereof; when he replied, that Matters were not fully adjusted with the Durbar; but that they were all to meet the next Morning at his Tent, and desired I would meet them. Accordingly Yesterday, about Eleven 'Clock, I waited on the Durbar, where I found assembled Butchaba, Morabah, Chintoo Wittal, Cookjee Holcar, Narroo Punt, (Holcar's Duan) Dadoo Punt Pootness, Gopal Naigue Tumbacker, and one of Holkar's principal Officers. Morabah began the Discourse by telling me, that every body present requested I would shew Ragoba they confirmed the Agreement formerly made with him, and to desire that he would not believe what any malicious Persons might write to the contrary.

The Durbar not mentioning any Thing of empowering Tumbacker to settle Terms with your Honour, &c. agreeable to what he had assured me on the 14th; I endeavoured to sound the Intentions of the Durbar with respect to what they meant to do for the Company, by observing to them that there had been Two Treaties entered into, and the other by Colonel Upton, with the late Durbar; when Morabah replied, that this Point would be easily settled after Dada Sahib's Arrival at Poona; and indeed this Method, which I hope will meet with your Approval, will in the present Situation of Affairs, I am of Opinion, be most for the Interest of my Employers, as well as Ragoba's Credit, who I make no doubt will for his own Honour consider the Treaty made with him as the only legal one: It is true he may perhaps at First be under such Restrictions as not to be able immediately to comply therewith; yet if he acts with Prudence, and endeavours to conciliate the Minds of the Ministers, and convince those who have been in the Opposition that he means faithfully to observe any Agreement he shall make now for the Safety of their Persons and Property, I make no doubt he may in a short Time have the uncontrolled Management of Affairs.

No Notice being taken at the above Meeting with the Durbar of Tumbacker's Departure, I sent the Linguit to desire he would inform me when he was to set off; he replied, that he did not suppose it would be until Morabah's Man, Daddoo Punt, who arrived from Bombay in the Morning, and was immediately returning thither, should either return to Camp, or write to them; but that he would send me Word as soon as he could speak with Certainty. The Arrival of Daddoo Punt explains in some Shape the Durbar's Reason for detaining me so long, he having brought a Letter with him from Ragoba, and I apprehend some Terms to be settled with his Friends here, to which he is carrying their Answers.

In the Evening I took my Leave of Morabah, when he delivered me a Letter to be presented to the Honourable the President on my Arrival.

I am with Respect,

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

Tho' Mostyn.

Poona,
8th April 1778. --

A P P E N D I X, N° 92.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bombay: Dated 26th April 1778; received in London 21st December 1778.

2. THE several Letters from Mr. Mostyn, entered in our Ship Diary since the Departure of the Hawke, will inform you of his Proceedings, and all material Occurrences at Poona, till the 29th ultimo; when the President received Advice from him of a Revolution which had taken place in that Government on the 26th.

3. On that Day Morabah Furneese and his Party, after having marched from their different Stations, met and encamped close to Poona, which they immediately took Possession of, and without any Opposition or Bloodshed, removed the Guards placed by Nannah Furneese at the Palace, and other Officers of Government, making Proclamation in the Name of Ragoba for restoring Peace and good Order in the City.

4. Morabah, after having assumed the Office of Duan, and made his Arrangements at Poona, proceeded to have an Interview with Sacaram Bappoo, the late Chief Minister, with whose Concurrence

A P P E N D I X, N^o 92.

he appears to have proceeded from the Beginning, as you will recollect Morabah made use of his Name in his First Overtures to us, and they have acted in concert ever since.

5. Nannah Furneese, the other Minister, after hesitating for some Time what Conduct to pursue, we are assured has agreed to all the Terms Morabah has proposed respecting Ragoba, on Condition that Morabah and Saccaram would be Security for his personal Safety.

6. The Confederacy having thus accomplished their Purpose without our Assistance, and having no further Opposition to expect from Nannah Furneese, preserved a long and most mysterious Silence with regard to their Intentions towards Ragoba. Morabah had indeed, a few Days before he took Possession of Poona, sent an Agent to Ragoba, to press him to join the Party without a Moment's Delay, but did not make any Proposals of any Kind either to him or us.

7. It was not till the 10th of this Month that Mr. Molstyn was desired to meet the Durbar, when he was acquainted they were going to send Gopal Naigue Tumbacker (who is a Person of Consideration) to Bombay, with Proposals regarding Ragoba, and a Request made to him to accompany this Person. We were in daily Expectation of their Arrival till the 20th, when we received Advice from Mr. Molstyn, that the Durbar had not yet given Gopal his final Instructions, and it seemed even then very uncertain when he would set out, though they professed Sentiments of great Respect and Regard towards Ragoba.

8. We can draw no very favourable Conclusions from this dilatory Conduct of the Durbar; and as we do not think it consistent that the Company's Resident should come to Bombay upon every Requisition from the Durbar, before he is satisfied such a Measure is really necessary, or may be attended with Benefit to the Company's Affairs, we have expressed our Wishes to Mr. Molstyn, but in such a Manner as not to lay an absolute Restraint upon him, that he should not quit Poona before he is convinced his coming here will answer some Business of Importance; and we have obseived to him, that he may with great Propriety demand from the Durbar, before he sets out, the Nature of the Business they want to intrust to him, that he may judge whether it is of sufficient Consequence to require his Presence here. The Recollection of the trifling Proposals they committed to him on his last Journey to Bombay makes this Precaution the more necessary.

9. In this uncertain Situation are Affairs at present: We can neither write or determine any thing decisive, until we know the Terms Morabah and his Party mean to offer to Ragoba.

10. It is a most unfortunate Circumstance, that whilst we, through the Want of Powers and Sacaram Bappoo's extreme Caution, were prevented from taking a Part, Morabah and his Party have found their own Strength sufficient to gain their Point without our Assistance. We did, as advised in our Address by the Cormorant, do all we could to remove their Scruples the Moment we received the Sanction and Approbation of the Governor General and Council to our Plan, and Morabah promised to give us the desired Instrument, under the Hand of Sacram Bappoo, the Chief Minister, without whose express Solicitation we were prohibited from engaging in their Scheme; and are not without Suspicion, that when the Confederacy found they might be certain of our Assistance in case of Necessity, they resolved to make Trial if they could do without it; and unhappily they have met with Success.

11. It now seems to be optional with them to what Share of the Government to admit Ragoba, or whether they will admit him to any Share at all. Their Fears for the Stability of their Government so long as Ragoba remains with us, and the Demonstrations we have given of our Attachment to him, are now his best Security, and we still hope will lead them to offer conhient Terms to him. All that we can write about the Terms for the Company must be mere Conjecture, though we have instructed Mr. Molstyn not to give the Durbar the least Hopes we will recede from Ragoba's Treaty. We can only assure you, that we will endeavour to procure the most advantageous ones we possibly can; and we firmly believe, if Ragoba is admitted to a sufficient Influence in the Government, he will confirm his former Grants made by the Treaty of Surat.

12. Immediately on receiving Advice of the Revolution, we gave Orders for our Forces and Military Apparatus to be held in Readiness, to accompany Ragoba to Poona, the Moment Matters are advanced to that Stage.

13. Ragoba is extremely sanguine on the Occasion, and betrays so much Impatience to move towards Poona, that we find it necessary to send Messrs. Carnac and Ramsay, as a Deputation from us, to expostulate with him on the Precipitancy of his Conduct, and to endeavour to moderate his Impatience. Their Conferences with him are recorded; to which we beg Leave to refer you.

14. Two of Ragoba's principal Domestics having applied to us for a Loan of Rupees 15,000, we complied with their Request, as they stand high in his Confidence, and might be of Service to the Company, in the Turn Affairs were then likely to take.

15. Ragoba, at one of his Conferences with Messrs. Carnac and Ramsay, took Occasion to express his Wishes, that when he was reinstated at Poona, the Company would afford him their Assistance to recover the large and valuable Territories dismembered from the Maratta Dominions, during the Weakness of the late Administration, by Grants to the Nizam and other Powers. He was acquainted, we could give no Answer to such a Proposition; and it is at his particular Desire we mention this Matter to you, and request your Orders and Sentiments on the Subject.

16. Having hitherto received no Satisfaction from the Durbar to the Sufferers by the Wreck Aurora, notwithstanding our repeated Representations, we have fixed the Amount of their Loss as a Claim

A P P E N D I X, N° 92. N° 91 and 93.

Claim upon the Revenues of Jambooseer, after the Company's Demands on Account the Twelve Lacks, and the Country of Three Lacks, are made good; and have resolved not to restore the Perrunnah till the Sum due to the Sufferers is discharged, with Interest. Our Proceedings will shew the Care we took to examine and ascertain the Amount for which the Poona Government was answerable, according to Treaty, with all possible Justice to both Parties; and we doubt not you will approve the Method we have taken to obtain Satisfaction for Merchants trading under your Protection.

25. The Governor General and Council, in pursuance of their Resolution for supplying us with Money to support the Engagements they concluded we should form in favour of Ragoba, have remitted us Bills to the Amount of Nine Lacks and a Half out of Ten Lacks, the proposed Supply; so that if Matters at Poona turn out to our Wishes, we shall leave a sufficient Command of Money to answer every Purpose.

A P P E N D I X, N° 91 and 93.

Bombay Select Consultations the 22d April 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
The W. John Carnac, Esquire, D. Draper,
Nathaniel Stackhouse, Will^m Ashburner,
Andrew Ramsay.

CONSIDERING the Station Mr. Mostyn holds at Poona, we think it is not consistent that he should come to Bombay upon every Intimation from the Ministers of such a Desire, unless he first satisfied that such a Measure is necessary, or may be of Benefit to the Honourable Company's Affairs. In the present Case we do not wish Mr. Mostyn should quit Poona before he is convinced that his coming here will answer some Purpose of Consequence; and we think he may with very great propriety demand from the Durbar before he sets out, the Nature of the Business they now want to en-trust to him, that he may judge whether it is of sufficient Importance to require his Presence here. This Precaution appears the more necessary from the Recollection of the trifling Proposals they committed to him on his last Journey to Bombay; though we do not mean by the above to restrain Mr. Mostyn from acting in this Point as he may judge most for the Honourable Company's Interest.

From the present Situation of Affairs, we do not think there is any Prospect of our having Occasion for the Bengal Troops this Season; and therefore in order to save the heavy Expence that will be incurred by their marching forward, it is agreed to write to the Commanding Officer at Culpee to remain there till he hears further from us.

Messrs. Draper and Stackhouse are clearly of Opinion that the Governor General and Council having been induced, by our Advices of the 7th of December last, to order a Body of Troops to the Assistance of this Presidency, and they do not think our Situation is so much altered either with respect to the Marattas, the probable Designs of the French upon Choul, or our own Military Resources, as to justify the countermarching the March of these Troops; they do not therefore concur in the above Resolution, which will throw the whole Responsibility upon us in case of Accidents. Another Reason for their Opinion is, that it seems very uncertain whether any Reinforcement will be sent from Madras, no public Advices having been yet received of any such Intention in the President and Council, though a public Pattamar arrived last Night.

The Majority hereupon esteem it necessary to observe further in Vindication of their Resolution, that the Difficulties of the March from Culpee to Bombay are so great as to make the Attempt next to impracticable, and they would not upon any Account expose the Company's Troops to such Dangers without the most absolute and imminent Necessity. Besides, it is totally out of our Power to procure Supplies of Provisions for them on the March, or Passes from the different Powers through whose Countries they must come, as desired by the Governor General and Council. The Majority allow that the Governor General and Council may have in a great Measure been led to that Resolution by our Advices, but at the same Time their Apprehensions of a French War must have been a further incitement to them to order so considerable a Body of Troops, which by our Advices from Europe of a much later Date than they could have at Bengal, we do not see any Reason to apprehend: And therefore the Majority think the subjecting the Honourable Company to so heavy an Expence would unavoidably attend the March of the Bengal Troops, would not be warrantable.

Messrs.

A P P E N D I X, N° 91 and 93. N° 94.

Messrs. Carnac and Ramsay lay before us a Report of their late Conference with Ragoba, which is ordered to be entered after this Consultation.

Adjourned.

Edward Ravenscroft, Secretary.

W^m Hornby,
John Carnac,
D. Draper,
N. Stackhouse,
W^m Alburner.

N° 93.

Bombay Select Consultations, 22d April 1778.

The Subject of a Conference between the Committee and Ragoba, 10th April 1778.

The Committee acquainted Ragoba, That for material Reasons the Board would wish him to postpone his Intentions of moving to Mahim on Monday next, unless he was very much bent upon so doing. They informed him, that the Honourable the President had just received a Letter from Mr. Mostyn, of the 8th Instant, advising, that he was that Evening to have an Interview with Moraba, who had Propositions to make on the Part of the Ministry, and that, until the Result of the Conference was known, he could wish that no fresh Steps should be taken either by Ragoba or the Board. Ragoba replied, that he did not regard deferring his Intentions of moving a few Days, would the Board but positively fix upon a Time for his March; and hoped that the Result of the Interview with Moraba would occasion no material Alterations in the Resolutions of the Board, as he well knew that unless the English would declare in the most open Manner their Determination to support him in his just Rights, and take some immediate Steps to convince the present Faculty at Broach of such our Intentions, that even those who had already declared in his Favour, would begin to waver through Dread of Resentment from the other Party; and he would assure the Board, that the Propositions they would receive would be very unbecoming his Dignity to accept. The Committee assured him he might rely upon the Friendship of the Company, and in having the Support in all his just and legal Rights and Pretensions; but that at the same Time the Board thought it advisable to wait the Overtures that might be expected in consequence of the aforesaid Interview. With this he appeared satisfied; but expressed a Wish of moving on Monday next to a Spot of Ground near the Mount, provided the Board approved of it. The Committee acquainted him, that the Board by no Means wished to put any Restraint upon his Inclinations, and would make known to them his Desire in this Particular. He took Occasion to mention his earnest Desire of leaving the Company in Possession of the Places stipulated for in his late Treaty with them; and observed, that his principal Motive for wishing to march by the Way of Callian was, that Vissagee Punt would most probably be thereby induced to make an early Acknowledgment of Obedience to his Government, when he meant to embrace the Opportunity of putting the Company in Possession of Ballon. He also expresses a Desire of seeing a Statement of his Accounts with the Company, as he was acquainted with the Expences and Charges incurred by the Assistance of their Troops in the Service; as also of the Collections made from the Purgunnahs assigned over to the Company. The Committee acquainted him his Request should be complied with, and then took their Leave, assuring him, that the Moment any fresh Advices arrived from Mr. Mostyn, that they should be made known to him.

A P P E N D I X, N° 94.

11th July 1778.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Members of the Select Committee at Bombay.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

MY last Respects were dated the 17th Instant.

By a Hircarrah whom I keep at Camp, I learn that Morabah, Buchabah, Chintoo Vittu and Crustrow Belol, on the 17th in the Afternoon, paid Monsieur St. Lubin a Visit, and the short

A P P E N D I X, N° 94.

shortly after their Return to Morabah's Tent, Monsieur St. Lubin followed them, where he staid until Eight o'Clock, when Morabah made him a Present; that on the 20th Nanah came down from the Matchy to pay Succaram a Visit at Bury, when they sent for Monsieur St. Lubin to take Leave, and accordingly waited on them. Notwithstanding these Appearances of Monsieur St. Lubin being dispatched, it is still a Doubt with me whether he will leave Poona, but even if he does, it will only be in order to lull us into a Belief of the good Intentions of this Durbar, whilst they have Recourse to the French for Assistance, a Door for which has already been opened by Monsieur St. Lubin's Negotiations with Nanah, and which have been lately taken up by Morabah; as you will please to observe by the enclosed Copy and Translate of a Letter I have received from a Person at Proonder, who, from the Knowledge I have of him, I do not think would deceive me; but as he is not in the Government's Service, and might possibly be deceived by the Person from whom he received his Intelligence, therefore, though this Letter was received the 19th, it containing Matters of such Importance I thought it proper to wait until I could receive a Confirmation thereof from some other Quarter, that the Loss of a few Days would not be attended with so much Prejudice as a Misrepresentation.

From a Person, whose Employ in the Government's Service is such as to give him frequent Opportunities of knowing what passes, I have received Information that when Crustrow Belol was laid in Town, it was agreed between him and Monsieur St. Lubin to make the same Proposal to Morabah as he had formerly done to Nanah with respect to the French assisting him; that in consequence thereof Crustrow went first to Proonder in order to prepare Morabah; and that Monsieur St. Lubin on his first Visit accordingly made the Proposal, when Morabah replied, He would consider of it; but that in the mean Time receiving Intelligence from Moodajee Bouncello of our Troops coming from Bengal being near Naugpore, Morabah dispatched Monsieur St. Lubin at his Second Visit.

I am informed by a Man, who says he is a Doctor in Scindy's Employ, but has for some Time past resided in Poona, that Senhor Norronho a few Days ago wrote a Letter to the Person who transacts his Business in Poona, acquainting him of his having received Information from Crustrow Belol, that Monsieur St. Lubin had engaged with Morabah to bring Five hundred Europeans hitler in Forty Days, and that Morabah had promised him, Lubin, the Command of the Toff Counah. The Man farther added, that in consequence of this Promise, Monsieur St. Lubin had inveigled away almost all Norronho's People, by advancing them from Fifteen to Twenty Rupees a Man, and promising to make good the Arrears of Pay due to them, but at the same Time ordered them to remain quiet in Poona, until he should call for them; however, that Senhor Norronho getting Intelligence of this Transaction, has, by paying out of his own Pocket the Arrears due to them from Government, induced all his People to return to his Service, and they accordingly went to him at Proonder on the 21st. This Man further tells me, that Eight Europeans, who have lately deserted from our Service, entered into that of Monsieur St. Lubin on the 20th, that he has Two Men, one a French Man named Le Bourchadiez, who came from Mahé, the other a Portuguese, at Bombay, purposed to entice our Europeans to desert, and that these People sent them to Panwell in Two Boats, which Monsieur St. Lubin has provided for that Purpose, and which are constantly employed between that Place and Bombay. It will undoubtedly appear somewhat strange that Crustrow Belol, who is Monsieur St. Lubin's Agent, should give the Information above-mentioned to Senhor Norronho; it is therefore necessary, in order to explain this Point, to inform your Honour, &c. that as Crustrow was the Person who brought Norronho from the Mogul's into this Government's Service, he has always considered him as immediately under his Protection.

I have thought it necessary to be thus particular in mentioning the different Accounts I have received of Morabah's Transactions with Monsieur St. Lubin, and the Honours paid the latter so far superior to any they have ever shewn the English, in order that you may, Gentlemen, be better enabled to judge of the Probability of his having formed a Connection so highly prejudicial to our Honourable Employers Interests. I am convinced of the Impossibility of the French supplying Two thousand Men; but at the same Time I think it is very probable that they may have it in their Power to send Five hundred at least, as soon as the Season will admit: At any rate, all Accounts agree, that the new Administration have entered into some Engagements with the French very dangerous to our Existence on this Side India.

On the 22d, I received your Commands of the 16th; and, conformable to your Directions, immediately forwarded the Letters enclosed therein for Colonel Leslie, with one from myself, by different Routes.

The Remonstrance and Demands you have been pleased to order me to make to the Durbar, is drawn out, and shall be sent as soon as it can be properly translated into the Gentoo Language. I have already acquainted you, Gentlemen, that I am assured the French have not got a Grant of Choul; but that Promise thereof was made to Monsieur St. Lubin, appears from Crustrow Belol's Confession at the Durbar before Mr. Lewis; and I am convinced they will not only get that, but much more, the Moment they can afford the Assistance Monsieur St. Lubin has promised. I have used every possible Means to obtain a Copy of the Engagement entered into between Nanah and Monsieur St. Lubin; but as no other Person than those Two, with the Linguist of the latter, were employed in drawing it up, it is totally impossible; nor do I know of any Steps having been taken for the carrying it into Execution, excepting Monsieur St. Lubin being permitted to remain here, in direct Violation of the most solemn Assurances to us, that he should

A P P E N D I X, N° 94.

be sent away, and the present Conduct of the Durbar. Conformable to your Orders, I have written a Letter to Holkar, on the Subject of Passports, and am in hourly Expectation of receiving his Answer, as well as one from Madjee Scindy, to the Letter I formerly advised I had written him.

On the 23d, one of the Pattamars dispatched by the Honourable the President with Letters to Holkar and Scindy, came and informed me that they had all been seized at Culvern, immediately on their crossing Tanna River, and carried to Billapore, the Subadar of which Place sent them to one Dandaker, the Officer commanding the Troops at Gallican, who dispatched Three of the Pattamars under Charge of Two of his own Sepoys with the Letters to Morabah, detaining the other a Day longer; and after plundering him of the Trifle he had, being Five Rupees, told him he might go about his Business, when the Man made the best of his Way to me. I have acquainted Holkar of this Circumstance, desiring he would apply to Morabah for the Letters. I have likewise written to Morabah, expressing my Surprise at this Conduct, desiring, should he not have delivered the Letters, that he would send them to me.

Monsieur St. Lubin returned from Proondur last Night, being supplied by Morabah with Twenty-five Peons, Two Jaffoods, and Four Camels, which it is given out are to attend him as far as Surat.

I am, &c.

(Signed) Thomas Mostyn.

Poona,
the 25th May 1778.

Translate of a Letter from a Person at Proondur; dated the 21st Rabellacar, and received the 19th May 1778.

At Noon I received your Note by Shirjee, and observed the Contents thereof. Morabah has had Two Councils regarding the French. He told Monsieur St. Lubin, he had made an Agreement with Nanah to bring 2,000 Europeans within Fifteen Months, which he had not yet complied with; but that if it is in his Power to fulfil that Engagement, Morabah desired he would send them with Ammunition, so as to be here before the Battalions can arrive from Calcutta; which Monsieur St. Lubin agreed to, and dispatched a Letter express to his Place.

Monsieur St. Lubin is dispatched, and Morabah wants him to go away in order to hasten the Troops he has promised; but he says he will remain here and send a Man with Letters for them; this they are at present considering about.

A true Copy.

(Signed) Thomas Mostyn.

Received at Bombay
the 28th May 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I late last Night received the Secretary's Letter of the 22d, and shall obey your Orders for forwarding the Packets to the Governor General and Council.

After closing my last Address to your Honour, &c. I received a Note from Morabah, enclosing Three Letters for the Governor General, being Answers to those delivered by Mr. Lewis, which he requests I will forward.

This Morning I received a Note from Proondur, acquainting me, that in consequence of our Troops from Bengal advancing, and a Report of Hyder's Army marching this Way, Morabah Sa-caram and Holkar had a Consultation; when they determined on sending Chintoo Wittul and Gopal Naigue Tumbuckur to meet me: The latter arrived this Morning, and the former was to leave Proondur about Noon. This Evening Gopal Naigue sent a Message, desiring I would send the Linguist to him; who on his Return informed me that he confirmed the Note so far that they will meet me To-morrow, to request I will accompany Chintoo Wittul to Bombay with Proposals respecting Ragoba: You may depend, Gentlemen, I shall advise you of the Particulars of the Conversation as early as possible.

Poona,
the 27th May 1778.
Received the 30th.

I am very respectfully, &c. &c.
(Signed) Thomas Mostyn.

True Copies.
(Signed) Edw^o Ravenscroft,
Secretary.

A P P E N D I X, N° 94.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Moftyn to the President; dated Poona the 26th May, and read in Council the 2d of June.

The Remonstrance the Board have been pleased to direct me to make to the Durbar I could wish had not been sent; I have advised them it shall be delivered as soon as translated; but for the following Reasons I intend to detain it until I can be favoured with your Answer to this Letter: First, Because the Durbar to pursue their present Plan of amusing you and gaining Time to carry their Views respecting the French into Execution, will undoubtedly promise to comply therewith: Secondly, Because it entirely debars us from all further Expectation either for ourselves or Ragoba, and we may be saddled with him as long as he lives: Thirdly, Because the Durbar are amongst themselves much divided; Holkar urging them to bring Ragoba, in which Scindy will most likely concur; and also seeing us Determined to be no longer trifled with, should they be inclined to make any Offers worth our Acceptance, this Remonstrance will certainly put a Stop to them.

Lastly, Because the Time fixed for the Durbar to deliver their Answer, and by the Time it can be transmitted to you, the Rains will be set in, therefore the Delay of a few Days can be of no material Consequence, in case you should still think it proper to be delivered. Therefore I flatter myself you will approve my Conduct, and speedily favour me with your Commands on it. Excuse me, Sir, for having given my Sentiments thus freely, and I beg I leave to intreat you will put a favourable Construction on them; my only Wish being, that you should be informed of every Thing that can be of any Use in your Deliberations upon this important Matter. Scindy is advanced within Twelve Cols of Proonder; I hourly expect an Answer from him and Holkar regarding the Districts; your Letters to them you will perceive by the public Address are stopt and carried to Morabah; I have wrote both Morabah and Holkar about it. By a Note from Proonder this Evening, I am informed the Durbar have Intelligence that the Bengal Forces are on the Banks of the Nerbedah, and taking the Road for Brampore, but as I have had repeated Reports of this I don't give entire Credit to their being advanced so far, as I think I should have heard from them by this Time if they were. From Butchaba I learn to Night that the Durbar has wrote to Moodajee Buncello, to desire the Officer of our Troops in a friendly Manner to return; if he will not, then to endeavour to take him by Force, and should he want any Assistance to advise them (the Durbar) but I am under no Apprehensions on his Account, as I hear he stands well with the Bengal Gentlemen. The only Danger I think to be apprehended for the Army is their Want of Provisions, from their having no Horse with them to forage.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire.

Honourable Sir,

Agreeable to what I wrote you last Night, this Morning both Tombiker and Chintoo Wittul waited on me, when they informed me they were sent on purpose to request I would accompany Chintoo Wittul to Bombay, with some Proposals to Ragoba; I made the same Objections I had done to the Durbar before, that I did not see any Necessity for my going unless the Durbar would explain themselves, particularly after the evasive Manner they have behaved with respect to this Business. They made me the same Answer the Durbar had done, that it was to assure Ragoba of their good Intentions towards him. I told them that I considered this all Fineſſe, only intended to gain Time and stop our Troops from Bengal advancing, for had they been sincere the Durbar would long since have dispatched me, and sent away Monsieur St. Lubin, but that I was convinced from the extraordinary Attention Morabah and the Durbar had paid him, the former had taken up Nana's Plan, and entered into the same Engagement with Monsieur St. Lubin. This they positively denied, though they acknowledged Lubin had made the Tender to Morabah, who replied, as long as they were in Friendship with the English this Government would not enter into any Alliance with any other European Nation, and that he, Morabah, had absolutely dispatched him. I replied, that it was very true, Monsieur St. Lubin had been publicly dispatched, but it was only with a View to blind us, and perhaps others; however, that I had in my Possession what I esteemed as a sufficient Proof of my Allegation; and produced Copy of a Letter written by Monsieur St. Lubin to the Captain General of Goa, by Monsieur De Sauty, which I luckily this Morning procured. They answered it was possible Monsieur St. Lubin might have written in that Manner, but denied my being able to produce any Writing from the Durbar: Upon which I observed it was the Art of this Durbar not to give any Thing under their Hands, that they might have an Opportunity of denying it, and that it was for this Reason, before I could give Credit to their having finally dispatched Monsieur St. Lubin, on a Promise to proceed to Bombay with Chintoo Wittul, that I insisted on a Writing from the Durbar with their Seal affixed, to the following Effect; "That in order to satisfy the English Company, they declared they had not at present, nor would have so long as they continued in Friendship with the English, any Treaty with the French, or suffer the French to trade in any of their Ports," being exactly conformable to the Promises made me by Saccaram Bappo, Nanah Furnese, Madah Roe Jadee Roe, and Byto Punt, when I was dispatched to Bombay in August last. This they promised to deliver me, with a Letter for the President, accounting for the Durbar's having kept me here so long; and requested

A P P E N D I X, N° 94, 95.

quested I would send the Linguist in Company with Tumbicker, who returns this Evening to Cam^t to bring them, which I consented to. Chintoo Wittul informed me he should set off on the 30th If the Linguist returns with the above Papers in Time I shall accompany him, otherwise will follow as soon as I receive them, agreeable to the Permission the Board have already given me. Inclosed a Copy of the Letter from Lubin to the Captain General of Goa, mentioned above; Mr. Lewis being taken ill, and I having been much employed in seeing a Number of People To-day, I take the Liberty to request you will favour me in laying the above before the Board.

Chintoo Wittul informs me he shall be Four Days in going to Panwell, where he will wait Two Days for me, by which Time I hope you will order a proper Boat to carry him over.

I have not been able to procure the written Intelligence from B—— To-day, but he has promised to send it me in the Morning.

I remain very respectfully,

Honourable Sir, &c.

Poona,
the 28th May 1778, Midnight.

(Signed) Thomas Mostyn.

A P P E N D I X, N° 95.

Letter from Bombay to Bengal.

Gentlemen,

Bombay, June 1778. SINCE closing our Letter of the 31st ultimo we have received further Advices from Mr. Mostyn Copies of which, and of the Correspondence between Monsieur de St. Lubin and the Portuguese Governments of Goa and Damaun, now wait on you.

By his last Letter to the Captain General at Goa, written long after the late Change in the Poona Government, it is indisputably evident that Nana's Engagements with the French have been taken up by the new Administration.

Upon the Inspection of these Letters, we resolved to make a Representation to the following Effect to the Governors of Goa and Damaun :

" That we have Reason to believe Schemes are concerting between the French and the Poona Government, which have for their Objects the Annoyance and Detriment of the British Nation
" but that, from the Alliance and good Harmony so happily subsisting between His Most Faithful and His Britannic Majesty, we have every Reason to hope, and shall rely, that the Portuguese will not in any Shape interfere or take any Measure that may promote the Success of the French Schemes, which in the End would prove equally subversive of the Portuguese Influence in India."

You will observe Mr. Mostyn's Reasons for deferring to make his Demands on the Durbar, and our Orders to him to abide by his former Instructions, which we doubt not you will approve. Any Offers the Durbar may now make to Ragoba can only be intended to gain more Time, and the more important Objects we have in View cannot be put to the Hazard upon the mere Hopes of Advantage to him.

We have no certain Accounts of the Bengal Detachment; Reports at Poona say it has reached the Nerbudda: We have however thought it necessary that the commanding Officer should have timely Instructions whither to direct his March; and as Surat, in point of Situation, Accommodation, and every other Respect, appeared to us the most eligible Place, we have resolved to send Instructions to Colonel Leslie to direct his March to that City, unless from Circumstances he should think it expedient, or it should prove more convenient to him to proceed to Broach; in which Case we have given him a discretionary Power for that Purpose.

The Chiefs of Surat and Broach will be directed to spare no Expence to open a Correspondence with Colonel Leslie, and to afford him all possible Assistance to expedite his March.

We are, &c.

Bombay Castle,
3d June 1778.

(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

P. S. We have just received Advice from Mr. Mostyn, that he has obtained and transmitted to Colonel Leslie Passports from Mhadjee Scindia, for the safe Conduct of the Bengal Detachment through his Country, as well as Orders for their being properly supplied with Provisions.

Ordered, That the Letters from Bombay lie for Consideration.

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X, N° 96.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 13th July 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Governor General, President,
Richard Barwell, }
Philip Francis, } Esquires.
Edward Wheler, }

To Colonel Leslie.

Sir,

WE have been acquainted, by the Governor General and Council, of your being the Officer appointed to the Command of the Forces sent by them to our Assistance; and have received a Copy of your Instructions.

On the 4th instant we dispatched a Letter to you by Four different Routes, countermanding our Order of the 22d April, and directing you to proceed on your March to this Side of India. We hope soon to hear from you what Route you have taken, when we shall send you more particular Directions for your Guidance; this being dispatched to acquaint you that we have not been able to procure Passports for your Army from the Poona Ministers, or Orders for your being supplied with Provisions; but we have ordered Application to be made directly to Tookajee Holkar and Mhadjee Scindia, the Jaghireddars through whose Dominions you must pass, and shall as soon as possible advise you of the Result.

It is necessary to observe to you, that the rainy Season on this Coast may be expected to set in about the 10th or 15th of June.

We direct, that you correspond punctually with Mr. Thomas Moslyn, the Company's Resident at Poona, who has our Orders to give you every Advice, and to do every thing in his Power towards facilitating your March.

We are, &c.

Bombay Castle,
the 16th May 1778.

(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

Friday
C. L.
Letter

Extract of Bombay Secret Consultations, the 5th June 1778.

Signed the following Letters to Colonel Leslie, the Chiefs of Surat and Broach, and to Mr. Moslyn.

Sir,

Our last Letter, dated the 16th of May, has been transmitted by Four separate Conveyances, and we hope has come safely to your Hands.

We therein directed you to proceed on your March to this Side of India, promising soon to send you more particular Instructions; and we accordingly now desire, that you will direct your March to the City of Surat, which, in point of Situation, Accommodation, and in every other Respect, appears to be the most eligible Place.

You will therefore bend your March with all Expedition to that City, unless from Circumstances you should think it expedient, or it should prove more convenient to you, to proceed to Broach; in which Case we hereby give you a discretionary Power for that Purpose.

Mr. Boddam, the Chief of Surat, and Mr. Gambier, the Chief of Broach, are directed to spare no Expence to open a Correspondence with you, and to give you every Information respecting the Roads, and every other Assistance that may be necessary; and you will not fail to communicate constant and punctual Advice of your Situation and Wants to either or both of these Gentlemen, accordingly as you may resolve to proceed, in consequence of the discretionary Power we have now given you.

We have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that Mr. Moslyn, the Resident at Poona, has obtained from Mhadjee Scindia, and transmitted to you, the proper Passports for the safe Conduct of the Army under your Command through his Country, as well as Orders to his Officers for all necessary Supplies of Provisions. We hope soon to obtain the like Orders from Tookajee Holcar, and flatter ourselves you will in consequence have an unmolested and well-supplied March through the Dekan.

REP. VI.

3 N

We

A P P E N D I X, N° 96, 97.

We must strongly recommend and enjoin your finding some Method to correspond either with us or some of the Gentlemen above named, as we cannot but be under Anxiety until we receive some certain Advice of your Situation, and are apprehensive your Letters must be intercepted.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servants,

William Hornby,
&c. Council.

Bombay Castle,
5th June 1778.

Extract of Bombay Secret Consultations, 18th June.

Signed, the following Letters to Colonel Leslie, and the Chiefs of Surat and Broach.

Col^l Leslie,
Letter too.

To Colonel Leslie.

Sir,

We have received your Letter of the 14th May, and hope soon to hear you are well advanced in your March.

Mr. Mostyn has obtained from Tookajee Holkar, and transmitted to you Orders for the safe Passage of the Army under your Command, through his Dominions; so that we flatter ourselves you will meet with no Obstructions or Impediments in your March to this Coast.

We have no further Instructions or Information to add to those contained in our Letter of the 5th Instant, already forwarded by Seven different Routes, only that you pursue your March with all possible Diligence, which we doubt not will be accelerated by a Circumstance Mr. Boddam will apprise you of, and to which you will give full Credit; we do not mention it ourselves, there being less Danger of a Letter being intercepted from Surat, and it does not appear you are furnished with a Cypher.

Bombay Castle,
19th June 1778.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient, humble Servants,
William Hornby,
&c. Council.

A P P E N D I X, N° 97.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 17th Augst. 1780.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General; President,
Richard Barwell,
Philip Francis,
Edward Wheler, } Esquires.

R E C E I V E D the following Letters from Mr. Mostyn, and from Mr. Lewis his Deputy, at Poona.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I did myself the Honour of addressing you last under the 29th May, and the next Day forwarded the Passport and Order from Madjee Scindia, therein-mentioned, to Colonel Leslie.

My Linguist having written me from Camp, that Morabah did not seem inclined to deliver the Writing respecting the French, which he was sent in Company with Gopal Naigue Tumbuckur to receive, but that Morabah said, if he did give it, I must likewise give one, certifying that the Enemies of this Government were those of the English; I directed him to acquaint Morabah, that what he demanded was unnecessary, it being already settled by Treaty, and that the one I demanded related merely to the French, who were not thought of when the late Treaty was made ordering him at the same Time to make another Application, and if Morabah refused, or made any Evasion, to return to me without Loss of Time; he accordingly arrived here the 3d, but I am sorry to inform your Honour, &c. without the Writing; and though Morabah told him he would forward it to me either as that Day or the next, I have not heard any thing further about it, nor do I believe the Durbar have any Intentions of delivering it.

A P P E N D I X, No 97.

In consequence of a Letter from the President of Bombay, Madjee Scindy on the 3d sent me another Dusluck and Order to his Officers for the free Passage of our Troops through his Country, which have also been forwarded to Colonel Leslie. I have not yet received any from Tookajee Holkar, though I have still Hopes thereof.

On the 5th in the Evening Saccaram Bapoo had a Meeting with Madjee Scindy, as had Hurry Punt, who is arrived from Pundapore, the same Night, and the next Day Morabah likewise met him. Yesterday I received a Letter from Camp, informing me that Madjee Scindy and Hurry Punt arrived at Proondur the Day before, when they paid a Visit to the Peshwa, who came down from the Fort for that Purpose, at which were also present Sacaram Bapoo, Nanah Furnese, Crustrow Belol, and Madahrow Jahdahroi : From Buchabah, Morabah, and Holkar, not attending, it appears to me that Party is formed by the former against the latter : It is not yet in my Power to say how Affairs will turn out, but it is possible the executive Part of Government may again revert to Nanah; though I imagine it will require some Time before it can be carried into Execution, and that it will not be decided without Bloodshed.

Notwithstanding the Assurances from the Durbar that Monsieur St. Lubin was dispatched, he is still permitted to remain here, and within these few Days has pleaded Sicknes in order to delay Time until the Rains set in.

The enclosed is Copy of the Paper I have delivered to the Durbar in consequence of my Superior's Orders.

I am, &c. &c.

(Signed) T^o Mostyn.

Poona,
the 10th June 1778.

To the Ministers of the Poona Durbar.

It is now upwards of Two Years since Colonel Upton concluded a Treaty with you, and yet nothing has been done on your Part towards the accomplishing it; I am therefore directed by the Governor and Council of Bombay, and under the Authority of the Governor General and Council, to call on you, in the Name and Behalf of the Honourable Company, for explicit Answers to the following Articles :

First. I demand to know, whether you consider the Maratta State as bound by the Treaty made at Proondur by Colonel Upton, and whether you will pledge your own Faith to the due Oblervance thereof?

Second. Agreeable to the said Treaty I demand immediate Possession of a Country of Three Lacks of Rupees, near or adjoining to Broach, in the Manner stipulated by the Fifth Article, by which we mean Three Lacks Grofs Revenue, that is, without any Allowance for Charges.

Third. I am also directed by the Governor and Council of Bombay to acquaint you that the Governor General and Council have directed them to keep Possession of the Countries ceded to the Honourable Company by Futtu Sing Guicawar, since you have failed in producing the Proofs required, that Futtu Sing Guicawar did not possess Power or Authority to make such Cessions, and that they will accordingly keep Possession of those Countries.

Fourth. I have made frequent Remonstrances to the Durbar on the Impropriety of their Conduct in concerning Monsieur St. Lubin, and have as often received Assurances from them that he should be sent away; notwithstanding which, I am sorry to observe, you still permit him to remain here: In a Letter I lately received from you, you say Monsieur St. Lubin is dispatched; but this I cannot consider as a sufficient Answer, and therefore do now, in consequence of Orders from the Governor and Council of Bombay, demand of you a clear and satisfactory Explanation of your Intentions with respect to the French; that is, whether in future you mean to admit any of their Ships into your Ports, or have any further Connections with them? declaring to you that the Governor General and Council will take such Measures accordingly as Prudence shall dictate for the future Safety of the Company's Interests and Possessions committed to their Care.

Fifth. As the Honourable Company have sustained a Loss of Two Years Revenue by your Delay in making over the Country of Three Lacks, conformable to the Treaty made with Colonel Upton, and you have failed in making good to the Merchants concerned in the Ship Aurora, the Loss they sustained by that Ship, amounting to R' 1,97,705. 3. 84. with Interest from the 27th August 1776, being the Date of Colonel Upton's Letter, advising you had agreed to restore the Ship and Cargo; I am directed by the Governor and Council of Bombay to inform you they will charge the Amount of these Two Articles to the Revenues of Jambooseer, and that when the Sum, for which it was originally mortgaged, with these Two Assignments, are paid off, they will be ready to restore the said Durgunnah to you.

We having experienced so much Equivocation and Delay in all your Proceedings, I am ordered to you this in Writing, to which I have signed my Name and fixed the Company's Seal, and demand from you an explicit Answer likewise in Writing with your Sicea affixed thereto; which, if not made in Fourteen Days from the Date hereof, the Governor and Council will consider any further Non-arrival or Delay as a Refusal. Dated in Poona this 4th Day of June 1778.

A true Copy.
(Signed) Tho^r Mostyn.

Honourable

A P P E N D I X, N° 97.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

My last Respects waited on your Honour, &c. under the 10th instant.

In the Evening after I had dispatched the above Address, I received Intelligence that Madajee Scindia, having sent 5,000 Men to escort him, Nanah had fled to him, conveying with him his own People, amounting to about 2,000 Men and his Bazar, &c.; that Nanah, soon after his Arrival at Scindia's Camp, wrote to Morabah, requiring him to deliver over the Sicca Cuttary and Jerry Putkey, which the latter refused complying with; and that several of Morabah's inferior Officers had received Notes from Nanah, ordering them to attend him; but that they, so far from obeying these Orders, had all declared their Resolution to stand by Morabah.

On the 20th, one of my own Hircarrahns informed me, that it was reported in Morabah's Camp, Nanah had promised Nine Lacks of Rupees each to Holkar and Scindia, Five Lacks of which was immediately paid to either, and the Remainder was to be paid as the next Day; in consequence of which, Holkar, who was encamped in the Rear of Morabah, advanced to his Front, and Scindia, who was the Front of the other Party, also advanced; and these Two Officers joining, now form One Camp between Morabah and Nanah. What may be the real Motives for this Junction, I cannot pretend to say, though I make no Doubt they have some Scheme in Agitation against some of the Ministers.

On the 12th at Noon, I received a Letter from Morabah, desiring that I would send him a Copy of the Papers regarding the French; the one delivered by my Linguist having been mislaid, and at the same Time earnestly requesting I would go to him at Camp. To this I replied, that having delivered the Durbar a Paper on the 4th, in which every Thing necessary was mentioned, and to which a plain and direct Answer would be expected in the Time limited, the Paper he requested was of no Consequence: I at the same Time excused myself from waiting on him, for the Reasons I had formerly given him through Gopaul Naigue Tumbuckur; but told him, if he had any thing particular to offer, and would deliver it in Writing, I would forward it to Bombay, and obtain him an Answer as soon as possible. The Reasons here alluded to, were the evasive and trifling Treatment, both myself and Mr. Lewis had met with at the different Times we went to Camp, and the extraordinary Attention paid by the Durbar to Monsieur St. Lubin; but I was more particularly led to evade going, by a Letter I had received that Morning from a Person in Scindia's Camp, informing me, that Nanah either had written or would write me, to request I would go to him; and being convinced from the Situation the Government is in, that the Parties in general would take it granted, the English would support whichever I should visit, it appeared of too much Consequence for me to decide. Having received the Letter from Nanah, I immediately addressed my Superior, requesting their Orders on the Subject; in the mean Time excusing myself in the politest Manner to Nanah. On the 22d, I was favoured with my Superior's Answer, dated the 18th, wherein they say, they think no Objection could lay against my visiting Morabah, as the Minister with whom I have lately transacted all Business in Behalf of the Maratta State, without any Reference to them.

On the 17th I received another Letter from Morabah, expressing his Concern that I did not wait on him, he having some particular Business to speak to me about, which he said he had sent a Man to explain to me. The Man told me he was empowered to promise an immediate Compliance with the Paper I delivered the 4th; for which Purpose Sunnuds should be accordingly instantly given to the Country of Three Lacks, and the other Articles agreed to in every Part, and to desire that we would bring over Ragoba with our Forces. I replied, that it was not in my Power to give an Answer to this Request; but if they were sincere in this Application, Morabah and his Party ought to lose no Time in writing to the Presidency of Bombay. I added, that in case of Compliance it would be expected that the Treaty made with Ragoba should be adhered to: To which the Man replied, that neither Morabah nor any of his Party would make mention of the Treaty; for as it had been made by their Master, it rested entirely with Ragoba to act therein as he thought fit. On the 21st the Man returned to me, bringing with him Letters from Morabah and Bucheba to the Honourable the President and me, Answers to the Paper I delivered the 4th, and Dustucks for the free Passage of the Forces you are sending to Bombay through the Maratta Dominions; but there being some Alteration necessary in the Answers to the Articles, I proposed to the Man his returning with me to Camp, and observing to him, that as the above Letters mentioned Holcar being joined with them, it would be better if he also wrote: Upon which the Man consented to return, and desired my Linguist might accompany him to see the Papers were properly drawn out. The Interpreter accordingly set out the 23d, and returned the 26th in the Evening, when he informed that Morabah had consented to every Point of the Articles which he had seen the Sicca affixed to, as also to the Sunnuds for the Country of Three Lacks; that Holcar had also written Letters, in which he declares himself firmly attached to Morabah, and agrees to whatever they do, and expresses his earnest Desire that we will assist with our Forces in bringing Ragoba hither; and that though these Papers and Letters were all sealed in his Presence, neither Morabah nor Holcar chose to trust them with the Interpreter to bring down, as the Government they said would in a few Days be entirely in Nannah's Hands, by whose People the Gauts between this and Proonder were already so strictly watched, that not a Man could pass without being stripped and searched, which indeed happened to the Interpreter; but they added, as it had been agreed by the Parties that Morabah should retire to the Village of Bhole, about 10 Miles to the Northward of Poona, for which Place he should pass through the Town in Two or Three Days, he would take that Opportunity of sending these Papers and Letters to me by one of his own People.

A P P E N D I X, N° 97.

ople. The Interpreter further tells me, that on the 25th Moraba and Buchaba paid Holcar a Visit; that Scindy in the mean Time coming in, the Two Officers retired to a private Room, where, after consulting some Time, they sent for the Two Brahmins, when they told Moraba he must deliver up the Sicca Cuttary and Jerry Putkey to Nanah; which Moraba refused, saying, that as he had received them from Perwetty Bhoy he should return them to her.

On the 25th Madarow Jadary, who came into Town the Day before, sent me a Letter from Nanah, written in the Name of the Peshwa, which referred me to Madarow for some Circumstances he was desired to tell me, and desired I would go to his Camp. Upon my sending to Madarow to know what these Circumstances were, and what Nanah had to say to me that he required my Attendance, I mentioned the Excuse I sent to Nanah, as already recited in the former Part of this Letter, that boo and Nanah thought it very extraordinary my delivering a Letter directed to all the Peshwa Ministers with the Company's Seal affixed at the Top, and that the Ministers only wanted to talk with me on the Subject thereof. I have therefore written to the Peshwa in Reply, that as we found so much Vassion and Prevarication in his Ministers ever since the late Treaty, it was absolutely necessary every thing should be done in Writing: I had therefore on the 4th Instant delivered certain Articles, not a Letter, to which I had signed my Name and affixed the Company's Seal, to shew that their Answer must have both the Sicca and Mortab affixed thereto, and to which, agreeable to the Orders I received from my Superiors, I had demanded a plain and positive Answer in Fourteen Days from that Date; but notwithstanding they had exceeded that Time by Ten Days, I had not yet received one; and that, as it would therefore only be losing Time to talk about the Articles, not having it in my Power to say any thing until I received the Minister's Answers, I hoped the Peshwa would excuse my Attendance; adding, if the Ministers had any thing particular to say, I requested they would give me in Writing, when it I found it material enough I would readily wait on them.

On the 12th I received Passports from Tookajee Holcar for the free Passage of our Troops through his Country, which were forwarded the next Day to Colonel Leslie, and on the 22d also forwarded him the Durluck from the Durbar mentioned above.

Having procured Copies of a Letter Nana has lately written to the Nizam, and of a Pass he delivered to Monsieur St. Lubin, when that Gentleman visited him under Pretence of taking Leave on the 20th ultimo, I now enclose Copy of them for your Notice, and which as they have been explained to me, shew Nana's real Views with respect to Ragoba, the English, and the French; but not being able to get them properly translated here, I am under the Necessity of forwarding their Persian Copies.

All Roads being stopt by Nana's People, who have strict Orders to seize all Letters, I have written this on Country Paper for the greater Convenience of Conveyance, and its great Safety.

Moraba passed the Town Yesterday, and in his Way sent me the Letters, &c. agreeable to what is mentioned above, with a Paper containing sundry Articles to be settled between his Party and Ragoba, which he requests the Board's Mediation in. The whole Party having requested I will go to Bombay on this Occasion, and I having my Superiors Permission for so doing, whenever I may find it necessary, I shall accordingly proceed thither as soon as I possibly can without giving Umbrage to the present Administration.

I am, &c. &c.

(Signed) T. Mostyn.

Poona,

The 3d June 1778.

Read the following Letters from Bombay:

Gentlemen,

We enclose Duplicates of our Letters of the 31st ultimo, and 3d and 12th Instant, and likewise another Copy of Mr. Baldwin's Letter.

Colonel Leslie has advised us of his having arrived opposite to Kalpey the 14th ultimo, and of his Intention to prosecute his March in a few Days. We do not apprehend he can reach this Coast until after the Rains, but as his early Arrival will be of the utmost Importance, we shall direct him to expedite his March as much as possible. Mr. Mostyn has succeeded in obtaining Passports from Tookajee Holcar as well as Mhadajee Scindy, which he has transmited to Colonel Leslie.

We find, by Mr. Mostyn's Advices, that a Party is now formed against Moraba, and that it is possible the executive Part of Government may again revert to Nanah, though not without Opposition. Both Parties have desired an Interview with Mr. Mostyn, who on that Occasion referring to us for Instructions, we thought, that as Moraba held the Sicca, and was the acting Minister with whom he had lately transacted all Business on the Part of the Maratta State, there would be an Impropriety in his visiting Nanah, and that it might have a bad Effect; whereas no Objection could be against his visiting Moraba, whenever he might find it necessary, without any Regard to their Party Disputes. On the 19th, the Term we have limited for receiving the Durbar's Answer will expire.

As the Presence of His Majesty's Squadron at this Place might be our Preservation in case of an Attack, and it can be of little Service, and is only exposed to Danger from a superior Fleet, on the Coast of Coromandel, we now write to Sir Edward Vernon, by a Vessel express, desiring he will immediately

A P P E N D I X, N° 97.

immediately come round to Bombay by the Southern Passage; in which Case he may arrive here ^{at} all August.

Enclosed is a General Return of our Forces for last Month.

Bombay Castle,
18th June 1778.

We are, &c. &c.
(Signed) W^m Hornby,
&c. Council.

Extract of Bengal Secret Consultations, the 17th August 1778.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Mostyn to the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire.

Honourable Sir,

The foregoing is Copy of my Address under the 17th, which unfortunately was seized near the Top of the Gots, and carried to Logur, and the Letter sent to Nanah. I hope to recover it unopened, otherwise it will irritate him exceedingly. When I dispatched it, I knew not that the Chowkies extended far beyond the Town; but Jassoods are now spread all over the Country, ^{as} in all the Bye Roads. Mr. Farmer dispatched a Pair of Pattamars Yesterday; they proceeded ^{as} the Gots in the Night, but finding every Avenue guarded, they were obliged to secrete his Letter and One returned this Evening to acquaint us thereof. I am also informed, that Five Pair of Pattamars, with One from Chintoo Wittul, and another belonging to Naro Sunker, who were coming from Bombay, were all stopped on the Gots; One Man only belonging to us got off; but the Letters are all carried to Logur, from whence they will be sent to Nanah. These Impediments will make Correspondence tedious, not only from the Necessity of every thing being wrote in Cypher, but Pattamars will also be obliged to go much round about, and can only travel by Night. Let me assure you, Sir, your Letters may be made up as round as possible, and that you will send them by Poona Pattamars, and I will venture my Life they will come safe, though perhaps take a little more Time.

I can add nothing but what the public Address will inform you, for it is past my Power to guess what are the real Intentions of Scindia and Holkar; every thing seems to depend upon them. However, I do not believe Morabah's Affairs are so desperate as the Junto make them; if they were, would not remain quiet at Proondur, nor his Family in Poona. I am rather inclined to think that something is intended against the other Party; but the better to blind them into a Belief of Safety. Tookajee and Scindia permit them to go on. From the general Letter you will learn how the different Armies are situated. I cannot think they can long remain in this State; and I have Haji Monajee Ponercab, and Badjee Punt Burba, who are hourly expected, will turn the Tide in Fav. of Morabah; and I think Scindia's Scheme, in moving from Sacaram and Nana, is to afford the Officers an Opportunity to attack them. I have just now received a Chit, informing me, that the Man from Morabah, who was to have come Two Days ago, will be with me this Night; therefore permit me to request your speedy Determination, with respect to my proceeding to Bombay. The putting into Cypher, and copying the Letter to the Committee, has taken up so much Time, it could not be ready last Night; I was therefore obliged to keep it until now. The ~~remain~~ Papers enclosed to the Board are in a Character: Mr. Farmer could not take upon him to translate, and I was afraid to show them with any one else. I think they are incontestable Proofs of Nana's Intentions; and it behoves us seriously to determine to frustrate them. I hope you will soon have a fair Opportunity. I remain with much Respect,

Poona,
the 21st June 1778.

Honourable Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,
(Signed) Thomas Mostyn.

P. S. The Man is arrived, and I make no Doubt Matters will be settled in Two Days, ^{according to} to what is mentioned under the 17th. If you lose this Opportunity, I have no Hopes of any ^{more} hereafter joining you, or making any more Offers.

Bombay Secret Consultations, the 17th of June 1778.

The President and Council of Bombay wrote to the Court of Directors as follows: viz.

" On the 26th of March a Change was effected in the Administration at Poona by Morabah ^{the} neese, who, without Opposition or Bloodshed, took Possession of that City, assumed the executive Power from Nanah Furneese, and appeared to act in all Affairs of Government in concert with Saccaram Bappoo; they had so taken their Measures, as to impregnable, we may say, a general Resistance; that this Revolution was intended in favour of Ragoba.

" We for some Time entertained Hopes that this Change would be followed with the most favourable Consequences to the Company and to Ragoba, and we more particularly depended ^{on} the French Influence at the Maratta Durbar would be destroyed by that Event.

" T:

A P P E N D I X, N° 97.

" The following Extract of our Letter to the Governor General, dated the 20th of last Month, will in a few Words shew you how far these Expectations have been realized, the Terms we are likely to be on with the Poona Government, and the Instructions laid down for our Conduct by those Gentlemen, which, though given before the Revolution, were still applicable to our then Situation.

" Every Letter we have received from Poona since the Revolution, and the uniform Tenor of the Conduct of the new Administration, evidently prove, that they still mean to continue the same Line of evasive Conduct, to long pursued by that Government; we doubt not but your Advices from Mr. Mostyn will have impressed you with the same Opinion: Though the executive Power is transferred from Nanah to Morabah, the former is still in Office and a Member of the Durbar; the latter, as far as we can judge, seems inclined to tread in the Footsteps of his Predecessor, and unwilling to part with any Share of his Power to Ragoba, may seek to secure the Whole to himself by the same Means.

" Monsieur de St. Lubin is still permitted to remain at Poona, though his Dismissal was the very first Object of our Instructions to Mr. Mostyn after the Change in the Administration took place, and he received every Satisfaction on that Head that Promises could give so long ago as the 10th April. Notwithstanding the Request then made to him in public Durbar to accompany their Agent to Bombay with Proposals respecting Ragoba; we find by his latest Advices, that they have been only trifling with him, nor have they to his Knowledge yet taken one Step towards settling that Business, though the Season is now so late: The Treaty still remains on the same Footing on which it has stood these Two Years past, nor has the new Government taken any Measures whatever for fulfilling the unexecuted Articles.

" Such being the Situation of Affairs, we could not, with your Orders before us, wait any longer in Expectation of Proposals from Poona; we have therefore given Mr. Mostyn Instructions to the following Purport, being exactly to the Directions contained in your Letter of the 23d of March:

" First, We have directed him to demand from the new Administration an express Avowal of the Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton:

" Secondly, The immediate Possession of a Country of Three Lacks stipulated by the 5th Article of the old Treaty, and to declare a Refusal to be a Violation of the Treaty.

" Thirdly, To acquaint the Durbar, we have Orders from Bengal to keep Possession of the Country, since they have failed in producing the Proofs required by the Treaty, that they had all Power to make such Cessions.

" Fourthly, To make a Remonstrance against the Countenance afforded to the Chevalier de T. F. and to demand a clear and satisfactory Explanation of their Intentions with respect to the French; declaring to the Ministers, that the Governor General and Council will take such Measures accordingly, as Prudence shall dictate, for the future Safety of the Company's Possessions.

" We thought it necessary to direct Mr. Mostyn to deliver these Demands in Writing, and to acquaint the Ministers, that we expected an immediate and explicit Answer likewise in Writing, but that if such an Answer was not returned within Fourteen Days, we should consider any further Delay or Evasion as a Refusal, and take our Measures accordingly.

" Mr. Mostyn delivered his Demands on the 4th Instant, when it was signified to the Ministers, that Lambooteer would be restored, on their making good the Balance of the Twelve Lacks, the Loss you have sustained by their Delay in making over the Country of Three Lacks, and the Amount due to the concerned in the Aurora.

" The Governor General and Council, on the Poona Government refusing to comply with these Demands, or in any other Shape infringing the Treaty, have authorized us to conclude an Alliance with Ragoba.

" We have lately obtained from Mr. Mostyn very strong Evidence, that Nanah's Engagements with the French have been taken up by the new Administration; and the same Gentleman discovered, that Application had been made by Monsieur de St. Lubin to the Government of Goa, for Permission for Two French Regiments to pass through the Portuguese Territories to the Assistance of the Poona Ministers; on which Head we have made a proper Representation to the Governor of Goa.

" Our latest Advices from Poona inform us, that a Party is formed against Morabah; and that it is not unlikely the executive Part of Government may again revert to Nanah Furnese. Both Parties seem preparing to come to Extremities; and it is not improbable but one or both may make Application to us for Assistance. In this critical Situation, you may assured we shall proceed with the utmost Caution and Circumspection, and take no Steps but what may appear, on the most attentive Consideration of every Circumstance, as best suited to ensure the Safety and Welfare of your Possessions."

The 8th of July 1778, the Board at Bombay addressed the Court as follows; viz.

" By the Advices received from Mr. Mostyn since that Period, we now find, that the Change we then had Reason to think would take place in the Poona Government, has really happened; the Administration having reverted into the old Channel, and the executive Power vested in Nanah Furnese; in consequence of which, that Government is now again in the same Situation it was at the Time the Treaty was concluded by Colonel Upton.

" Our

A P P E N D I X, N° 97, 98.

" Our last Letter from Mr. Moltyr is dated the 3d Instant, in which he informs us, that not having received from the new Administration an Answer to the Demands he made under the 4th ultimo; and having received from the other Party every necessary Paper and Credential for settling our Demands upon that State, and bringing Ragoba again into Government, he had at their Request determined to proceed immediately hither, to lay the same before us, and proposed setting off as soon as he had received the proper Passports for that Purpose."

A P P E N D I X, N° 98.

Extract of Bombay Secret Consultations, the 6th July 1778.

RECEIVED the following Letter from the Resident at Poona.

Poona,
letter from.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

My last Respects were dated the 29th ultimo: The same Evening I received another Letter from Nanah, requiring my Attendance at Camp in the Name of the Peshwa; as also one from Mhaderow Scindia, telling me that he understood there was some Difference between the Durbar and us with respect to the late Treaty, he would get it settled, and therefore requested I would go to him; to the former I have made the same Reply as formerly advised, and to the latter, that I should be very happy to meet him; but as this could not be done without disengaging the Ministers whom I had for certain Reasons refused, I hoped he would excuse me for the present.

Yesterday I received in the Evening a Note from Kessorow, the Son of Mhaderow Jaderow, in questing I would send the Linguist to him as he had something to say; the Linguist accordingly went, when Kessorow told him, that as Morabah had got Possession of the Articles I delivered the 4th ultimo, he was directed to request I would deliver another Copy thereof; to this I replied in Writing, that I did not understand this Behaviour, being certain that the Paper is in Nanah's Possession, if not, it was very extraordinary that he did not apply for a Second Copy, when he desired I would go to Camp purposely to talk on these Articles on the 25th ultimo, or that Mhaderow at a Visit he paid me the 27th, should not have asked for a Copy, but on the contrary repeated the Articles to me verbatim, and pressed me to go to Camp, to talk upon them; and that it therefore appearing perfectly clear to me, the Durbar so far from meaning to give an Answer, only wanted to trifl with me, and by obtaining another Copy, have it in their Power to say they did not receive the Articles until the 2d Instant, when they would expect a further Time of Fourteen Days to answer; I could not comply with their Request; to this, Kessorow replied in Writing, that in Consideration of our Friendship, I ought to deliver the Copy in question.

From the above Message I make no Doubt it will appear clear to your Honour, &c. that the Durbar have no real Intention of replying to that Paper; and as I have received every necessary Pass, and Credential from the other Party for settling our Demands and bringing Ragoba into Government, with which they have earnestly requested I will proceed to the Presidency, and lay before the Honourable Board for your final Determination, I judge it necessary to comply with their Request, and intend setting out as soon as I can receive the proper Dustucks, which I hope will be in a few Days.

I was in hopes of receiving an Answer from the present Durbar to the Paper delivered the 25th ultimo, which would have afforded me an Opportunity of leaving Poona under Pretence of laying them before you, without giving the least to suspect the real Motive of my Journey; but being disappointed therein, I have been under the Necessity, as the only Means left to prevent Suspicion, making use of your Honour, &c.'s Name by writing to the Peshwa, it is by your Order, I proceed.

I am informed that Holcar and Scindia are pressing Nanah for the Balance of the Money promised them as mentioned in my Addres of the 20th ultimo, which Nanah is endeavouring to evade by saying that he has no Money with him, but will come to Poona to raise it. To this, however, the Officers object, and insist on its being paid there; Nanah has in consequence sent for all the Shroffs, both Bramins and Guzarattees, to Proonder, but I understand they have agreed amongst themselves not to lend a Rupee, and it is imagined this will bring on a fresh Dispute.

Monsieur St. Lubin left this Place the 9th instant, with an Intent as it is publicly given of proceeding to Damaun, though I am privately assured that he will not go further than Damaun, where I suppose he will remain until Nanah is satisfied whether he can comply with his Engagements.

Poona,
3d July 1778.

I am, very respectfully,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servant,
Thomas Moltyr.

A P P E N D I X

A P P E N D I X, N° 99.

Letter from Mr. Mostyn, dated 13th July 1778.

Bombay Set.
Conf. 21 Jul
1778.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Select Committee, Bombay.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

CONFORMABLE to what I wrote you under the 3d instant I left Poona the 6th, and have now the Honour to lay before you sundry Letters and Papers from Morabah and his Party, as per enclosed List, and hope my Conduct in the whole of this Business will meet with your Honour, &c.'s approbation.

On the 5th I received another Letter from Scindia, requesting I would go to him, as he wanted to settle the Articles; but as I had so often refused both him and the Durbar, telling him that it was not in my Power to talk on the Articles, as your Honour, &c. required a plain and direct Answer in Writing, and being convinced it was a Scheme of Nannah's to delay Time, I thought my going to Camp at Scindia's Request might appear as if I meant to trifle only with them: I therefore wrote to Scindia, desiring that he would send me the Dustucks, for which I told him I should stay that Day only; I also added, that if he had any thing particular to say, and would deliver it me in Writing, I should lay it before your Honour, &c. and procure him an Answer.

I likewise enclose Copy of my Address to the Honourable the Governor General and Council under the 30th ultimo.

Bombay,
13th July 1778.

I am, very respectfully,
Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,
Your obedient humble Servant,
Thomas Mostyn.

List of sundry Letters and Papers brought by Mr. Mostyn from Poona.

- N° 1. Letter from Mahiput Row Trimbrick, or Butchebah Pronder, to the Honourable the President, dated 22d Rabillaker.
2. Letter from Morabah Furnese to D°, of the same Tenor and Date.
3. Letter from Mhaderow Narrain to D°, dated the 2d June 1778.
4. Letter from Tookajee Holcar to D°, dated the 20th June 1778.
5. Letter from Mora Babarow to D°, without Date.
6. Letter from Mora Babarow, or Moraba, to Ragoba.
7. Letter from Tookajee Holcar to D°.
8. Letter from Mahiput Row, or Butchebah Pronder, to D°.
9. Three Sunnuds, in the Name of Maderow Narrain Peshwa, to deliver to the English of Bombay the Purgunnahs of Desborah, Hanfood, and Ahmood, dated 15th Rabilliker.
10. Demands made by Mr. Mostyn on the Part of the Government of Bombay, with the Answers.
11. Anwers under the Sicca and Mortab to the Paper delivered by Mr. Mostyn to the Poona Durbar on the 4th June 1778.
12. Translation of a Memorandum delivered to Mr. Mostyn by Morabah.
13. Memorandum of Articles given in by Mr. Mostyn, and answered under the Sicca.
14. Articles of a Treaty proposed by Mora Babarow and Mahiput Row Trimbeck.

Translation of a Letter from Mahiput Row Trimbrick, or Butchebah Pronder, dated 22d Rabillaker.

After Compliments:

The Row Saheb State has fallen into Disorder, which cannot be settled without the Presence of the proper Master; the Row Saheb being a Minor, your Honour, &c. will therefore join your Army with Dada Saheb, and see him come to Poona. I have communicated some Matters regarding the coming of Dada Saheb to Thomas Mostyn, Esquire, and have dispatched him to your Honour, by whose verbal Information you will know all. Your Honour, &c. will have no Scruples in Mind, and manage so that Dada Saheb's coming may take place immediately.

Letter from Morabah Furnese, exactly of the same Date and Tenor as the preceding one.

Translation of a Letter from Mhaderow Narrain Peshwa, dated 2d June 1778.

After Compliments.

Mr. Mostyn has represented to me, that there is a Treaty in Force between the Circar and the Company,

A P P E N D I X, N° 99.

pany, and they continue in Terms of Friendship; for that Reason it is proper no Manner of Agreement should be made or entered into with Monsieur St. Lubin, a Frenchman, who is come to this Circar, and is permitted to reside at Poona. To this I answer, that hitherto no Agreement has been concluded between him and this Durbar; neither shall any be made hereafter; and I never will hold with him or his Nation any sort of Friendship, or permit the French Ships to come into any of my Ports, either for Trade or otherwise: This will continue so long as the Honourable Company and I remain in Friendship. I have not any Occasion to depend on the French Nation: Your Honours, &c. will also act agreeable to the Treaty.

Translation of a Letter from Tookajee Holcar, dated 20th June 1778.

After Compliments:

Disorders have arisen in the Government of Row Saheb Pundit Pradhan, owing to which some Enemies of the State have grown powerful; therefore, without the Presence of Dada Saheb, these Disorders cannot be put a Stop to, nor can the Government be settled. I have had a Conference on this Head with Morabah Dada and Butchebah, wherein we have agreed to bring Dada Saheb to Poona; and both the aforesaid Persons have communicated the same to Mr. Mostyn, and written Letters to him on the Business. We are heartily agreed, so that your Honour will see that Dada Saheb comes here immediately with your Forces; and entertain no Doubts respecting us; but what is settled by Mr. Mostyn with the Two Government's Officers. I want very much to have the Government properly settled; and your Honour is likewise a Friend to this State. You will know the rest of the verbal Information of Mr. Mostyn. I am hearty in the Business, and so are the Two abovementioned Chiefs.

Translation of a Letter from Mora Babaro, or Moraba, without Date.

After Compliments:

I have delivered to Mr. Mostyn a List of every Article of my Terms, which he will communicate to you, and you will take the same into Consideration, and see every Article agreed to. Your Honour will mediate between the Parties, and get the Articles confirmed under the Seal of the Company, and send them to me; all which, and other Matters, I have communicated to Mr. Mostyn, who will acquaint you of the same. I have not any other Intention than to be on friendly Terms with you, and your Honour will do the same on your Part.

Translation of a Letter from Moraba to Ragoba.

After Compliments:

Moraba sends his Respects. I have communicated every thing to Mr. Mostyn; all of which you will understand from his Representation. I have no other Dependance besides you, God is our Judge.

Translation of a Letter from Tookajee Holcar to Ragoba.

After Compliments:

I Tookajee Holcar, your Servant, send you my Respects, and hope you will act agreeable to the Request of Mora Babarow, who now writes to you. Some Differences have happened, to which you might take Exception; but I hope you will not, because we are all one; this you may rely on. Dated the 5th Jamadillaker.

Translation of a Letter from Mahiput Row, or Butchebah, to Ragobah.

After Compliments:

I your Child, Mahiput Row Trimbuck, send you my Respects. I have communicated to Mr. Mostyn all Matters on our Part, which he will inform you of; and you will, without any Hesitation, undertake the Business. I swear that no Obstacle will arise on our Side. Three Sunnuds, in the Name of Maderow Narrain Peshwa, to deliver to the English of Bombay, the Purgunnahs of Darbara, Hansfood, and Ahmood. Dated 15th Rabillaker.

A P P E N D I X, N^o 99.

Demands made by Mr. Mostyn, on the Part of the Government of Bombay; with the Answers.

First. The Six Articles already delivered are to be agreed to, and answered under your Sicca, in a Column opposite to each Article. Should Dada Saheb besides give us an additional Grant of Territory, you will assist therein, and send Sunnuds accordingly.

Second. The Pay and Expence of the English Troops, who will come with Ragobah, are to be shewed in ready Money, according to the Terms settled with Ragonaut Row in the Treaty of Surat, which Treaty you will agree to; or if ready Money is not paid, particular Countries shall be assigned over for the same Purpose.

Third. On Dada Saheb's Arrival either at Bellapore or Panwell, Butcheba and the Subedar's Son are to come and compliment him.

We agree to the above as it is written. Dated 15th Rabillekar.

L. S.

Answers under the Sicca and Mortab to the Paper of Demands delivered by Mr. Mostyn to the Poona Durbar, the 4th June 1778.

Sicca.

First. We agree to observe the Treaty of Poorunder, and will willingly perform the same; you will do the same on your Part.

Second. Sunnuds are issued for the Country of Three Lacks, according to the Treaty. You alledge there is a Difference between the Cahmil Jumma and the present Revenues; into which we shall hereafter enquire and do what may be necessary. If it appears on a just Examination, that the Revenues fall short of Three Lacks, Villages will be given from the Purgunnah of Occlafeer to make up the Difference: If on the contrary there should be an Excess, you will dismember Villages from the Purgunnah of Hansood, and restore them to the Circar.

Third. The Proofs from Futtu Sing mentioned in the Treaty of Poorunder not having been produced to this Day, we now agree to your keeping the Country of One and a Half Lack of Rupees, given the Company by Futtu Sing Guicawar.

Fourth. Monsieur St. Lubin, the Frenchman, is already dispatched. No Treaty is concluded with him, nor will any be hereafter, so long as we are in Friendship with you. A Letter is written to the Governor on this Subject.

Fifth. You speak of the Stipulations made by Colonel Upton respecting the Country of Three Lacks, to which we answer that we shall observe the Agreement made by the Circar. The just Amount due on that Account, according to the Treaty, shall be paid in ready Money, or out of the Revenues of Jambooseer, as may be settled; which Purgunnah shall be restored after the Amount is paid.

Sixth. We have answered your Five Articles opposite to each other, agreeable to which we will not.

We agree to the Six Articles, in the above Manner.

Mortab.

Translation

A P P E N D I X, N° 99.

N° 12,

Translation of a Memorandum delivered to Mr. Mostyn by Morabah.

A true Friendship should subsist between us ; regarding which, a Letter to me, under the Company's Seal, is required to the following Purport :

That several Points have been agreed to between us by an Instrument under the Company's Seal, which we will observe : You will have no Objection or Doubts in your Mind about the same ; our Friendship will be continued to the End of Time, and you will cultivate the same on your Part.

N° 13.

Memorandum of Articles given in by Mr. Mostyn, and answered under the Sicca.

Futty Sing has given the Company a Territory of One Lack and a Half of Rupees, to which you will have no Objections.

You will settle respecting the Pay of the Troops that are to accompany Ragoba, in the same Manner as stipulated by the Treaty of Surat ; or leave the same to be adjusted by Chintoo Punt, giving him a proper Power for that Purpose.

The Circar have given us, by the Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton, a Country of Three Lacks of Rupees. The Pergunnahs shall be Ahmood, Desborah, and Hansood. Any Difference there may be in either of the Revenues of these Districts shall be settled, as mentioned in Paper N° 11.

We have mutually agreed to restore Ragoba ; it now remains to be settled, to what Place we shall bring him, and where you will come and join him. We will come to the Foot of the Gauts ; but it is very difficult to get above them. After we have got above the Gauts, there can be Obstacle ; but that Enterprize will be very difficult.

Holkar is equally engaged with you in this Business ; you will therefore desire him to confirm the same to one of my People.

To transport the Artillery, Stores, &c. Ten thousand Biggaries, and Two thousand Bullocks will be wanting. We will bring as many Laf-cars as our Bundar can afford ; but the rest must be supplied by you.

I will endeavour to get your Articles confirmed ; but you must send some Person with Letters for the Governor and Chintoo Punt.

Our Treaty is not to be discovered to any Person, not even to Chintoo Punt.

We agree to the above, the 29th Jamdillawah.

Answer. This Article is answered in the Reply to the Paper of Demands given in to the Durbar by Mr. Mostyn.

Answer. Chintoo Punt has Authority and Instructions on this Point, as mentioned in former Paper. We agree to the Treaty made with Ragoba.

Answer. This Paper has been also already answered.

Answer. The principal Officers and the Armies are now here, and when it is convenient we will advise you thereof. You may now go to Bombay ; and when you have settled everything, let us know ; and send the Articles according to our Agreement. All our Time and Attention are taken up in the Business. We have given you full Powers ; but the Matter must be kept a Secret.

Answer. The Subedar has had a Meeting with Bapoojee, and satisfied him, and given him his Letters.

Answer. You have every thing. We on our Part will assist with as many as our Situation will permit ; but you must not make any Delay on this Account.

Answer. I have delivered to you Letters for the Governor, and deputed a proper Person ; but no Letters for Chintoo Punt ; your being there will be sufficient.

Seal.

Articles

A P P E N D I X, N° 99, 100.

Articles proposed for a Treaty by Mora Baberow and Mahiput Row Trimbuck.

Article 1st. The Peshwa being a Minor, the State has fallen into Disorder, for that Reason we have agreed that Dada Saheb shall come, in order that the Government may be settled; but the Sicca, &c. shall be continued in the Name of Maderow Narrain, and until he comes of Age Dada Saheb shall conduct the Government, through our Hands as the principal Ministers.

2d. Dada Saheb will not keep any of his present Attendants near him, nor listen to their evil Counsel; he may settle on them reasonable Appointments, but not let them approach near him.

3d. In consequence of the Disorders that have prevailed in the State for these Four Years past, Ragoba may have Intentions to punish particular Persons; he must not entertain any Thoughts of that kind, but banish all Enmity from his Heart in a general Amnesty. If any one hereafter shall make Disturbances against the State, Dada Saheb, in Conjunction with us, will inflict the proper Punishment; and the English shall never at any Time interfere with us in this Point; the English shall not, without our Advice, make an Alliance with any Power that may affect us.

4th. The English Army that will accompany Ragoba, shall remain so long as we may have Occasion for it, and be dismissed when he may think proper; to which you will make no Objection.

5th. Whenever we may hereafter at any Time require your Assistance, you will send an Army well equipped for our Service.

6th. Whatever Grants have been made to any Person for Services to Government, shall be confirmed by Ragoba.

7th. We will on our Parts faithfully observe the Treaty concluded during the Government of the late Nanah and Row Saheb.

8th. The several principal Officers belonging to the Peshwa's Government, and the Dependents on him, are to be provided with suitable Appointments, according to their Rank; but State of the Governments Finances must be considered.

9th. We confirm the Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton, and agree to the further Demands made by Mr. Mostyn, according to what is wrote in our Answer to those Demands.

10th. Should any Chiefs of the Government want to bring in Dada Saheb, without our Participation, you will not consent thereto; you must bring him in through our Interposition alone, and not through any other: The late Mhaderow took the Government as Chief Minister out of our Hands; you will use your Interest to restore us to our Places, and will not support any Persons that may endeavour to prejudice us in Ragoba's Favour, but support us.

11th. You will without fail bring Dada Saheb to Poona, according to our Wishes, assisting him with Troops and warlike Stores as may be necessary to accomplish it.

12th. The King and other Chiefs in Hindostan have made Encroachments on the Territories belonging to the Circar and its Officers, which you will get restored by Force, and assist us in our endeavours for that Purpose.

13th. Govind Row and Futtu Sing having made an equal Division between them of the Guicawar's Country, you will see this Agreement punctually complied with. Govind Row ought to receive the Revenues of his Share from the Time the Division was first made, but Futtu Sing has withheld it. An Equivalent thereof must therefore be given and continued to Govind Row. You will not favour Futtu Sing, who ought not to charge Govind Row with Half of the Countries he gave to the English. You will assist Govind Row in all Things.

14th. This Circar has sustained a Loss on Account of the Disturbance raised by Sudabah. The Effects, &c. he had in his Possession ought to revert to the Circar. You will assist in this Business, and not protect whoever may be in Possession thereof.

15th. The Management of the Guicawar Business is to be in the Hands of Gopal Naigue.

A P P E N D I X, N° 100.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Mostyn, dated 27th June 1778.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Select Committee of the Honourable the English East India Company, at Bombay.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

On the 22d Instant I was honoured with your Commands of the 18th.

On the 21st, the Man mentioned in my last to be sent by Morabah, returned to me with Letters from Morabah and Butchebah both to the Honourable the President and me, with the Answer

A P P E N D I X, № 100.

Answer to the Paper I delivered the 4th, and Dustucks for the free Passage of our Troops coming from Bengal through the Maratta Dominions. The Letters from Morabah and Butchebah were to request we would bring over Ragobah with our Forces, and to assure that Holcar was strictly joined with them; but there being some Alterations necessary in the Answer to the Paper, and not having received any Letter from Holcar on the Subject, which I told the Man was likewise absolutely necessary, he agreed to return to Morabah, at the same Time desiring that my Linguist might accompany him to see that the Papers were drawn out in a proper Manner, to receive the Sunnuds for the Country of Three Lacks, and Letters from Holcar to the Honourable the President and myself, which I consented to. The Linguist accordingly set out on the 23d, and returned last Night, when he informed me that Morabah had agreed to the Articles in every Point, which he had seen properly sealed, as also the Sunnuds for the Country of Three Lacks, and Letters from Holcar to the Honourable the President. That Holcar had also written the Letters declaring he is firmly attached to Morabah and Butchebah, and that whatever they do he agrees to, and expressing his earnest Desire to bring Ragobah here; that Morabah had drawn up sundry Articles which he wishes to have settled between his Party and Ragobah, through the Mediation of your Honour, &c, and that though these Papers were all sealed, neither Morabah or Holcar chose to trust them with the Linguist to bring down, as the Government would in Two Days be in the Islands of Nannah, by whose People they were so strictly watched that not a Man could pass without being stopped and searched, which indeed happened to the Linguist; but said as it had been agreed between the Parties that Morabah should reside at the Village of Bhole, about Ten Cofs Northward of Poona, for which Place he should pass through the Town on Sunday, he would take that Opportunity of sending these Papers to me by one of his own People. Morabah requested, that the utmost Secrecy might be observed, until Matters were entirely adjusted, and we began to act; and said, that he would acquaint us when he and Holcar were ready to co-operate with us, but could not now take upon himself to say the exact Number of Troops he could join us with. The Linguist further tells me, that the Day before Yesterday Morabah and Butchebah visited Holcar; that whilst they were with him, Scindia came in, when the Two Officers retired to a private Tent; that after consulting some Time, they sent for the others, and told Morabah, that he must give up the Sicca Cuttary and Jury Putkey to Nanah; which he refused, saying, that as he had received them from Perwetty Roy, he should return them to her. The Linguist says, he heard at Camp that Badjee Punt Burwah and Monackjee Phaneria hearing of the Junction of Holcar and Scindia, imagined that Morabah was left entirely to himself; and fearing that the Kistnah would fill so much by the Rains, as to prevent their Retreat, they had hastily retired to the Southern Bank of that River, from whence they are plundering the Country round.

On the 25th Mhaderow Jaderow, who came into Town the Day before, desired I would send a Man to him, as he had something particular to say. I complied therewith by sending my Gentle Writer, to whom he delivered the following Message; viz. That when I came from Bombay he sent a Jaslood to pay his Compliments to me, who I said was not a proper Person; that some Time ago I delivered a Letter, directed to all the Ministers of the Peshwa, with the Company's Seal affixed to the Top, at which Nannah and Bappoo were much surprized, but that he had excused this to them by telling them I was unacquainted with their Method of affixing Seals; that the Peshwa had last sent me a Letter, desiring I would go to Camp, but instead of answering it in the Manner I should have done, I had written an Answer to Ballajee Janourdeen (alias Nannah) that I should not go without Orders from Bombay, which they thought very extraordinary, as there could be no Objection to my Vaceel attending the Government; that Nannah Bappoo and Madajee Scindia having ordered him to present their Compliments to me, and desire my Attendance at their Camp, he had represented to them that it was necessary they should write a Letter to me on the Subject, which they have accordingly done; he now sent it to me, requesting I would take into Consideration and fix a Day for going to them, when he would accompany me. This Letter, written in the Name of the Peshwa, and sealed with the Muttalic Sicca, mentions, that Mhaderow will acquaint me with some Circumstances, and desires I would accompany him to Camp. As I supposed the Circumstances he alluded to were no other than the Message above recited from Maderow Jaderow I sent him the following Reply: That I could not consider a Jaslood as a proper Person to meet me on my Arrival (which was the Case when I came here in March 1777) particularly as I was convinced the Durbar knew better from their Behaviour to Monsieur St. Lubin, that to many People being in Possession of the Muttalic Sicca, it was impossible for me to know from whom Letters sealed thereto came; if therefore there was not some fixed Rule for my Conduct, I might attend upon any Officer possessed thereof, who might chuse to write me in the Peshwa's Name; and as Morabah was the Person to whom the Durbar last referred me for transacting Business with the Government, I did not consider myself at Liberty to obey the Summons mentioned by Maderow; that the Durbar having ever since the late Treaty acted in so evasive a Manner, it was become absolutely necessary to put every thing in Writing, which was the Reason of my delivering the Paper the 4th instant; that it was not a Letter, but certain Articles to which I signed my Name and fixed the Company's Seal, to shew them that their Answer must have both the Sicca and Mortab affixed thereto; and with respect to the Seal being at the Top of that Paper, and my Name at the Bottom, I observed to him that it was exactly conformable to their own Method of affixing the Sicca at Top and the Mortab at Bottom, and not through Ignorance of their Customs, as he pretends to say. As the Circumstances mentioned by Mhaderow appeared to me too trifling to need my Attendance at Camp, I this Morning sent a

A P P E N D I X, N° 100, 101.

Other Message to him, desiring to know if he had any further Particulars to inform me of, and what it was Nannah wanted to talk to me on; telling him, if only on the Articles, it was unnecessary, because they explained themselves, and I was directed to demand an Answer in a certain Time, which had now been exceeded Eight Days; but if Nannah had any other particular Business, I desired he would deliver it in Writing; when, if it appeared of Consequence sufficient, I would immediately wait on him: To which Mhaderow replied, that he had no further Particulars to inform me of, and that the Business Nannah wanted me for was to talk on the Articles and the Increase of our Friendship. This more fully points out their View in tending for me to be nothing more than to delay Time, and to evade giving an Answer to the Paper in Writing; and as from the Excess of Time your Honour, &c. may judge it a Refusal, I have thought it most prudent to evade going, and from Experience I am convinced it is the only Method of drawing any thing from them in Writing. Nannah having again got the Power of Government, I make no Doubt but the same, if not greater Obstructions, will be thrown on our Communication with the Town as formerly, which will of course render my future Intelligence very imperfect.

The Letter mentioned in my last to have been stopped by Nannah, has in consequence of my Application been returned to me unopened; as have also a large Packet coming from Madras for Bombay, which was immediately forwarded by a Pair of Pattamars, those from Madras being taken sick and unable to proceed; and a Packet with the Honourable Company's Seal for the Captain General at Goa, with several private Letters from that Place; which were all immediately forwarded.

I am informed that Nannah has lately sent an Order to Monsieur St. Lubin to leave Poona, and that he has in consequence been supplied with Camels, Bullocks, &c. for his Buggage, and a Guard; but he now pleads, that his Linguist being at Nannah's Camp, he cannot set out until his Return. Notwithstanding Nannah has given this Order, I am convinced it is only done with a View to blind us; for where can he go at this Season of the Year?

The Dustucks mentioned in the former Part of this Letter, were forwarded to Colonel Leslie on the 22d.

I am, very respectfully,

Poona,

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servant,

Tho' Mostyn.

A P P E N D I X, N° 101.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 17th August 1778.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Conformably to what Mr. Mostyn wrote under the 30th ultimo, he proceeded to the Presidency on the 6th instant; a few Hours after he had set out, a Government's Caroon came to the Factory, with the Durbar's Answers to the Paper delivered the 4th ultimo; but on finding Mr. Mostyn was gone, refused to deliver them, saying, he had received positive Orders to follow him, and deliver them into his own Hands; however, the next Evening he returned, telling me he had received fresh Orders from his Master to deliver them to me. The Original I have forwarded to Bombay, and now enclose Copy of Translate for your Observation.

Your Commands of the 8th, and Duplicate of those of the 11th June, have been received, the former on the 9th and the latter on the 11th instant; immediately on Receipt of the first, I wrote a Letter to the Peshwa, requesting to know how I should convey that from the Honourable the Governor General to him; and on the 18th received an Answer, desiring I would send it to Proondur, which I have accordingly done, with another from myself, requesting, as the readiest Way to prevent all Disputes between your Troops and those belonging to this Government they may meet with on their March, that he would send me a Dustuck for their free Passage through the Maratta Dominions, which I would forward to Colonel Leslie; but Nanah Furnese being now the only Minister, I cannot say I have the least Hopes of this Request being complied with, as he views the March of these Troops with a very jealous Eye. It is necessary to observe here, Gentlemen, that in the Month of January last, the Honourable the President of Boinbay forwarded a Letter from the Peshwa to me, with Directions to deliver it myself, but both Nanah Furnese and Saccaram Bapoo refused receiving it, unless I sent it through the Hands of the Two People appointed to transact the English Business with the Durbar; and that at the Time of the Receipt of the Honourable the Governor General's Letter, one of these People was at Nanah's Camp, and the other said he was so ill as to be unable to transact Business; in order therefore to avoid all Disputes on this Head, and to prevent my receiving a Second Insult, I judged it the best Method to write the Peshwa as before recited, and hope it will meet with your Approbation. The Copy of my Proceedings,

A P P E N D I X, N° 101.

ceedings, mentioned by your Honour, &c. to be wanting, was forwarded in the original Packet of the 12th May, via Benares.

On the 1st Monsieur St. Lubin left Poona, with an Intent, it is publicly given out, of proceeding to Damaun, but Mr. Mostyn received private Assurances that he would not proceed any further than Damaun, where it is imagined he will remain until Nanah sees whether he is able to perform his Engagements.

On the 10th Madjee Scindy, at the Request of Nanah Furnese, sent Two thousand Men to the Village of Bhole, to seize Morabah, and the next Day they arrived, and encamped with him on a Plain about a Mile without the Town. Nanah and Scinday not agreeing what shall be done with him, Morabah still remains encamped, guarded by Three hundred Horse, the rest having rejoined Scindy.

A Person in Scindy's Camp informs me, that Holcar has been obliged to deliver up his Duan, and Two of his Officers, to Nanah; that Nanah and Scindy have appointed another Man to be Holkar's Duan; and that every one, whether Brahmins or Officers, who joined Morabah, had been seized, and considerable Fines demanded from them; amongst the rest is Buchabah Proondur.

From the best Intelligene I have been able to procure, I learn that Saccaram Bappoo has not been in the least consulted on the late Transactions; and I am even assured, that it is Madjee Scindy's Intention shortly to seize and confine him; in which Case I much doubt whether Scindy's Ambition will not lead him to take the Government entirely into his own Hands.

I am, &c. &c.

W^m Lewis.

Poona,
the 20th July 1778.

Translation of the Poona Durbar's Replies to the Paper delivered by Mr. Mostyn on the 4th June, received the 7th July.

First. A Treaty was made between the Circar and the English, to which they affixed their Seal; the English ought to keep it faithfully, and the Circar will do the same.

Second. Conformable to what is written in the 5th Article of the Treaty, I have offered you the Country, but you would not settle and take it. There is no Agreement to give you a Grots Revenue of Three Lacks, according to the Treaty. You may settle and take it To-day, and the Circar will settle and deliver it. The Delay is on your Part, not on the Circar's.

Third. It is mentioned in the Treaty, that when Proofs shall be produced, under Futtu Sing's Hand, that he has no Power to give away any Country; the English would deliver up Chickly, &c. Country. Futtu Sing sent Two Letters, directed to Colonel Upton; also Copy of the Peshwa, Sunnud, with his Seal, which were delivered to Colonel Upon, shewing that this Power is not with the Guicawar, but with the Peshwa. A Receipt for the said Letters and Papers was taken from Colonel Upton, with his Seal affixed thereto, which is in the Possession of the Circar. Conformable to the Treaty, Chickly, &c. Purgunnah ought to be restored to the Circar. What you now write, being contrary to the Treaty, is very extraordinary, and much surprizes me.

Fourth. There is no Agreement between Monsieur St. Lubin and this Government.

Fifth. You would not receive the Country of Three Lacks, agreeable to the Treaty; if you will now receive the Country, I have this to observe about the Two Years Arrears of the Revenues: You must debit the Amount of the Collections that have been made these Two Years from that Country, and whatever Collections have been made in the Purgunnahs of Chickley, &c. must remain deposited with the English: And further, that, according to what is written in the Treaty, you must deduct the Value of the Chickley, &c. Purgunnahs; and whatever may be the Difference, either on one Side or other, shall be paid. I do not perfectly understand what you have wrote about the Ship. I have sent to call you, and after your Arrival I shall talk with you, conformable to what I have written to Colonel Upton.

A true Copy.

Edward Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the
Select Committee.

A P P E N D I X, N° 102.

Extract of Bombay Select Consultations, the 26th July 1778.

RECEIVED a Letter from Mr. Lewis at Poona.

Lewis, Mr.
Willm. Letter
from.

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

My last Respects were dated the 11th Instant: The same Night I received Information, that Morah had been seized by Two thousand Men belonging to Scindy; and that they were encamped with him on the Plain close to the Town, from whence they were to proceed next Day to Poorunder. That he still remains upon the Plain, guarded by Three hundred Horse only, the rest being returned to Camp.

By Messages I have lately received from a Man at Camp, I learn that Holcar has been obliged to deliver up his Duan; and that every one, whether Bramins or Officers, who joined Morah, have been seized, and considerable Fines demanded from them: Amongst the rest are Vissajee Punt and Utchebah Proondur; the latter was taken the 14th Instant. The same Person Yesterday sent me word, that Nannah had the Day before ordered a Body of Men to surround our Factory; and that Scindy getting Notice thereof, immediately sent to him to desist, which Nannah was obliged to comply with.

I have not received an Answer from the Peshwa, to the Letter I wrote, informing him of my having received one for him from the Governor General and Council, as mentioned in my last Address. I have not therefore yet been able to deliver it; indeed, at present there does not appear to be any proper Government. Nannah, it is true, has the Name, but Scindy is in fact the Minister, for the former dares not do any thing without his Permission; Sacaram is not even consulted; and I was told Yesterday, that it is Scindy's Intention to confine him in a very short Time; in which Case I make no Doubt he will go a Step further, and by alto consiping Nannah, seize the Government.

I am, very respectfully,

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

William Lewis.

Poona,
17th July 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 103.

Appointment of a Select Committee at Bombay, by the Court of Directors, 10th April 1778.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor of Bombay,

John Carnac, Esquire,

Colonel Charles Egerton, and

Daniel Draper, Esquire.

HAVING appointed George Wombwell, Esquire, Chairman of our Court, William James, Esquire, our Deputy Chairman, and William Devaynes, Esquire, to be a Committee of Secrecy, we hereby direct that all Orders and Instructions which you shall receive from our said Committee of Secrecy, be observed and obeyed with the same Punctuality and Exactness as though they had been signed by Thirteen or more Members of the Court of Directors.

And having also thought proper to appoint a Select Committee for transacting all Political, Military, and Naval Affairs, and likewise all such as may require Secrecy at our Settlement of Bombay, it is our Order, and we hereby direct, that the said Select Committee do consist of William Hornby, Esquire, our President and Governor, or our President and Governor for the Time being, John Carnac, Esquire, the Second Member of our Council, or the Second Member of our Council for the Time being, Colonel Charles Egerton, our Military Commander in Chief, or our Military Commander in Chief for the Time being, and Daniel Draper, Esquire, the Fourth Member of our Council, or the Fourth Member of our Council for the Time being.

Our Military Commander in Chief shall at any Time be absent from the Presidency, then our Order is, that our President and the Second and Fourth Members of our Council shall be a Select Committee for the Purposes aforesaid, during the Absence of the Commander in Chief from the Presidency.

A P P E N D I X, N° 103. N° 104, 105, and 106.

We direct that all Orders and Instructions shall be issued in the Name of the President and Select Committee, and that all such Orders be implicitly obeyed by every Person in Service, or enjoying our Protection, Civil or Military, on pain of Suspension from the Service, or of forfeiting our Licence and Protection.

If our Select Committee shall think fit to suspend any Person or Persons from our Service, such Person or Persons shall not be restored, otherwise than by the said Committee, except by Order of the Court of Directors.

We direct that at every Meeting of our Select Committee, when all the Members shall be present, the President shall have a casting Vote, and that in all Cases where the Committee shall be unanimous, the Minority shall co-operate in carrying into Execution the Resolutions of Majority.

In case of a Vacancy by the Death or Removal of any of the Members of our Select Committee, it is our Order that every such Vacancy be forthwith filled up by the next Member of our Council of Rotation, except in Cases where we may think fit to make particular Exceptions.

We are,

London,
the 10th April 1778.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Your loving Friends, | |
| R. Hall, | G. Wombwell, |
| Rich. Becher, | W. James, |
| Cha' Boddam, | Ben. Booth, |
| Sam ^l Peach, | W ^m Mills, Jun ^r , |
| L. Sullivan, | Jn ^o Michie, |
| W. G. Freeman, | Geo. Tatem, |
| T. B. Rous, | Tho ^o Cheap, |
| Jn ^o Woodhouse, | Rob ^r Gregory, |
| W. Devaynes, | J. Stables, |
| H ^r Fletcher, | John Roberts. |

A P P E N D I X, N° 104, 105, and 106.

Bombay Select Consultations, the 21st July 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
John Carnac, Esquire,
Colonel Charles Egerton,
Daniel Draper, Esquire.

THIS Meeting being appointed to take into Consideration the Situation of Affairs with the
Tattas;

Reference being made to Mr. Mostyn in the several Letters from Moraba, Butcheba, and Tattas Holcar, and it being also judged necessary to consult him on some other Points before we take Resolutions on the Papers before us, he is now summoned to attend the Committee.

Mr. Mostyn attending accordingly, and being made acquainted with the Cause of his being summoned, delivered himself to the following Purport:

He refers to his former Letters and to the Papers he brought from Poona, for an Explanation of his Views of Morabah and his Party, which are in short to place Ragoba in the Government as Regent, on this express Condition, that the Sicca shall continue in the Name of the Peshwa Mhaderow Nanah, and with some other Restrictions which they consider necessary for their own Safety and Convenience in Office, and for the internal Peace and good Order of the Government: These Restrictions, no doubt will also appear to us, from a Knowledge of Ragoba, to be both just and requisite; particularly enforces to our Attention, that these Papers were regularly executed under the Seal during the Time Morabah was the acknowledged Minister, though the Change in Favour of Nanah's Furness took place immediately after. With respect to Nanah's Views and Intentions, he doubted they must be very apparent to the Committee, from the whole Tenor of his Conduct ever since the Treaty of Poorunder; and that his Answer now before us, to the Paper of Demands, will prove beyond Contradiction that he never means to comply with that Treaty: That his Designs, with respect to the French will appear obvious upon a Review of the Advices from Poona, and more particularly by the Paper he delivered to Monsieur St. Lubin the Day he had his Audience of Leave; which have been already transmitted to the Committee and to the Governor General and Council.

A P P E N D I X, N° 104, 105, and 106:

Mr. Mostyn then proceeds, That on an attentive Survey of the different Parties at Poona, their Views and Intentions with respect to us, the French, and Ragoba, there appears to him no Alternative but to take Part with Moraba; and that it should be done without the smallest Delay, considering the present Situation of Affairs with France, for should we be attacked at this Place in the Course of the War, and the executive Power of the Maratta State remain in the present Hands, there is not a doubt but the French will receive every Assistance in the Power of Nanah to give, whilst we shall be confined in our own Settlements, and deprived of every Supply whatever from the Continent.

Should we determine upon taking Part with Moraba, Mr. Mostyn thinks it necessary to observe to us, that at present the greatest Part of the Maratta Forces are assembled on Poor under Plains; but that they must necessarily separate in all next Month, on Account of the Rains and the Want of Forage, and the Necessity of Nanah's tending the Forces immediately depending on him to oppose the Progress of Hyder, whose Army is now actually investing Meritz: That the usual Time for their again assembling is about Desera, or the Beginning of October, when it generally takes up near Two Months before they are collected; but of the Motions of the Armies, Morabah can best keep Mr. Lewis well informed, who may also be directed to be attentive thereto himself. If the Army should disperse he supposes it will, he recommends the Beginning of September for the Commencement of our Operations, of which Moraba also should have Advice that he may be ready to co-operate.

To facilitate our Measures, and prevent as far as may be all Opposition, Placards might be issued in proper Time by Ragoba, declaring his Intentions are to continue the Sicca in the Boy's Name, and to preserve the Peshwa Government without doing Injury to any one who does not oppose his just Designs, or fly; commanding all Officers to join him, and summoning the Ministers to attend him: To give the greater Weight the Honourable Company's Seal may be affixed thereto.

Mr. Mostyn having concluded what he had to say, the following Questions are put to him by the Committee:

Question. What Service can be rendered by Morabah, Butchebah, and Holcar, equivalent to the Concessions they demand on the Part of Ragoba?

Answer. He doubts not they will be able to assist him with a Body of Thirty thousand Horse; and that having Chiefs of so much Power and Influence to co-operate with us in our Plan for restoring Ragobah, and openly espousing his Cause, will ensure a speedy and successful Issue; whereas it would otherwise be more difficult and take up much Time: He further signifies his Belief, that if we proceed in concert with the above Chiefs, Mhadjee Scindia will not oppose Ragoba, or separate himself from Tookajee Holkar.

Question. If Nanah Furneese remains in the chief Management of the Maratta State during so long a Minority, what are the Consequences reasonably to be apprehended?

Answer. Every Injury to the Company it can be in his Power to offer, and an Association with the French for their Annoyance and Destruction.

Question. What are his Reasons for believing the Paper delivered by Nannah to Monsieur St. Dubin, and Nannah's Letter to the Nizam, to be genuine and authentic?

Answer. He procured them by Means of the Vackel of the Rajah of Toll Bhopall, who obtained them from the Pharanovees, or Persian Writer to the Government, to whom he pays an Annual Pension of Rupees 5,000 for Intelligence: Their Contents were afterwards in Part confirmed by the Gentoos Writer to the Government. Mr. Mostyn desires these Circumstances may be kept inviolably secret, as the Parties would certainly lose their Lives if any Discovery was made that this Information was obtained from them.

Mr. Mostyn was also particularly questioned respecting the Country about Poona, and the Roads and Passes between that Place and Bombay. He says, that Rajematchy is the only one of the Passes defended by a Fort; that the others have no other Obstacles but what are raised by Nature; and that the principal one, called Bhore Gaut, may be approached by Water, within the Distance of Six Coss, and may be easily secured, by advancing a single Battalion, with light Field Pieces, the Ground being such that the Maratta Horse cannot act, if any Opposition should be intended; but so little Difficulty does he apprehend, that he would have no Objection to accompany the Battalion himself.

He is desired, with the Assistance of such Charts as he may have, and some capable Person out of the Engineer's Office, to frame the best Map he can of the Country Fifty Coss round Poona; and having given us very clear and distinct Information on the several Subjects proposed to him, he is permitted to withdraw.

N° 105.

The Committee then proceeded to the Consideration of the Durbar's Answers to the Paper of Demands presented by Mr. Mostyn, and transmitted by Mr. Lewis, since Nanah Furneese resumed his Seat in the Administration.

These Answers having been carefully compared with the Demands, and considered with the utmost Deliberation; Resolved, by an unanimous Vote, That the Answers are in the highest Degree vague, evasive;

A P P E N D I X, N° 104, 105, and 106.

evasive, and unsatisfactory, and amount to a Refusal, which is aggravated on a Comparison with the Answers given by the preceding Administration, as per N° 11.

Resolved, unanimously, That we are authorized, by the Letter from the Governor General and Council, dated the 23d of March, to declare the Durbar's Answers to be a Violation on their Part of the Treaty of Poorunder, and that consequently we are freed from all Obligation laid on us by that Treaty, and at full Liberty to pursue whatever Measures we may deem expedient and safe, for the Subversion of a Party in that Government, connected with the French in Schemes hostile to the Company, and for establishing an Administration at Poona with which we can maintain a secure and permanent Alliance.

Resolved unanimously, That the Situation of Public Affairs in Europe, and the Restoration of Nanah Furjeesé to the executive Power of Government at Poona, render it a Case of indispensable Necesity that Measures should be taken with all possible Expedition to effect these Two Points.

Resolved unanimously, That for the Accomplishment of these Purposes we pursue the most practicable Measures for placing Ragoba in the Regency at Poona, with this special Provision, that the Government and Sicca be conducted in the Name of the Peshwa during his Minority, and rendered on his attaining the legal Age.

N° 106.

The Measures to be pursued being next discussed, the Articles proposed by Morabah and the Party are considered; when it is agreed, That it will be proper and requisite to make equitable and secure Terms for them with Ragoba, but that it will be better to settle the Articles respecting the internal Management of the Government when Ragoba is established at Poona. The Article respecting the Disputes between the Guicawars will be determined with more Propriety by Ragoba and Morabah, without our Interference; and that respecting the Recovery of the Territories lost by different Powers during the late Troubles, might lead us into Measures totally inconsistent with our Plan, and repugnant to Treaties formed by other Presidencies.

Upon the most attentive Consideration of every Circumstance, the most safe Plan, the most promising of Success, and the least liable to Disappointment, appears to be;

To assure Morabah and the Party, of our good Disposition towards them; that we shall heartily join in the proposed Plan; and that they may depend on our paying the utmost Regard to their Interest and Pretensions in whatever Engagements we may make with Ragoba, provided they will their Part faithfully perform their Promises:

To revoke our Orders to Colonel Leslie, for marching the Army into Quarters at Surat or Broach, and to direct him to move to the Southward, quitting the Guzerat Country, and pursuing the most eligible Route to the Town of Junceir, about 30 Miles to the N. E. of Poona, and near to a Fort in the Interest of Morabah, distinguished in Jelfries's Map by the Name of Ziner. He must be directed in his March to avoid approaching Aurungabad or Part of the Nizam's Dependencies, and rather to take the Brampore Road, and through the Country of Buglana. By the Time he approaches Ziner we can send him Orders either to act in Prosecution of our Plan, by curing the Passes and effecting a Junction with our Force and Ragoba, or to proceed on to Bombay according as our Advices from Europe may render expedient, which, about the Beginning of September, when it will be proper to begin our Operations, we may expect to receive, to a very great Date, by the Way of Suez; and by that Time we may also obtain the Sentiments of the Governor General and Council:

To direct Mr. Lewis to send us constant and punctual Advice of the Motion of the Mahratta Armies.

To recommend to the Governments of Bengal and Madras, to demand of Mhdajee Bourch and the Nizam to observe a strict Neutrality at least, if they will not assist Ragoba:

To proceed in our Preparations, without communicating our Resolutions to Ragoba, till Mr. Lewis are more ripe; and in the Terms to be made with him for the Company, to look to nothing further than the Performance of the Treaty of Surat, the total Exclusion of the French, and the Settlement of our Expences.

These several Heads of our Plan are all unanimously agreed to, and the Secretary is directed immediately to prepare the necessary Advices agreeable thereto.

A P P E N D I X, N° 107.

Copy of a Letter from the Select Committee of Bombay to Colonel Leslie.

To Colonel Leslie.

Sir,

THE Honourable the Court of Directors having been pleased to invest us as a Select Committee, with full Powers for conducting all Political and Military Operations, you will in future receive all Instructions from us, and are to address your Correspondence accordingly.

Since the Letter from the Board of the 19th ultimo, we have received your Letters of the 6th and 14th.

We hope you have already effected a Passage over the Nerbuddah; for the Situation of Affairs is such, that instead of continuing your March through the Guzerat Province to Surat or Broach, we now find it expedient to direct, that you proceed more southerly, and pursue the most eligible Route to the Town of Juneer, about Thirty Miles to the North-east of Poona, and near to the Fort distinguished in Jefferies's Map by the Name of Ziner. By taking this Course, you will find the Weather more moderate, and the Road more practicable than in the Guzerat Province; but we would recommend to you to avoid approaching Aurungabad, or any Part of the Nizam's Dominions; and rather to take the Brampore Road, and through the Country of Buglawa.

Exclusive of the Dustucks already sent from Tookajee Holkar and Mhadjee Scindy, Mr. Mostyn has lately forwarded to you Passports from the Poona Durbar; so that we hope you will have an unmolested March through the Whole of the Maratta Territories; but you are nevertheless to be strictly on your Guard.

The Chief of Surat and Mr. Lewis at Poona will have Orders to send you the best Information they can obtain respecting the Road you are now directed to take; and we shall send you further Instructions as you approach, or as we may see necessary.

We shall rely on your advising us frequently of your Progress; and are,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

(Signed) William Hornby,
John Carnac,
Charles Egerton,
Daniel Draper.

Dated July 21st 1778.

A true Copy.
(Signed) Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the Select Committee.

A P P E N D I X, N° 108.

Extract of Bombay Select Consultations; the 25th July 1778.

SIGNED the following Letter to the Governor General and Council, to be transmitted by the Terrible Bomb Ketch.

To the Honourable Warren Hastings, Esquire, Governor General, &c. Council at Fort William. Fort Wil
Letters

Gentlemen,

The Honourable the Court of Directors, in their Commands of the 10th April last, having pleased to appoint us a Select Committee for the Management of all Military and Political business at the Presidency, we enclose for your Information an Extract from their said Commands, and request that your future Instructions on these Subjects may be addressed to us.

The Advices from the Board here and from Mr. Mostyn, will have acquainted you of the late transactions at Poona, by which Matters are brought to such a State, that it became absolutely necessary to take the most speedy and decisive Resolutions for our Conduct.

H^taving therefore seriously considered the Situation of Affairs with the Marattas, the Prospect of approaching Rupture with France, and every other Circumstance necessary to be attended to,

REP. VI.

A P P E N D I X, N° 108.

the Result of our Deliberations is contained in the enclosed Copy of our Proceedings, which we lose not a Moment in transmitting to you by a Vessel express, with Copies of every necessary Paper.

We flatter ourselves you will approve these Resolutions. The Monsoon has been so uncommonly severe, that we shall scarcely be able to begin our Operations sooner than the Beginning of September; by which Time we hope to receive your Sentiments.

We request, if you think it necessary, that you will apply to Mhodajee Bouncello and the Nizam, to observe a strict Neutrality in the Dispute.

We have subjoined to the Extract of the Company's Letter, the Paragraph respecting the Situation of Public Affairs in Europe, though we are advised a Packet for you was forwarded at the same Time with ours.

The Service of this Vessel (the Terrible) being much wanted, we request she may be immediately returned.

Bombay Castle,
25th July 1778.

We are, with Respect,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient humble Servants,
William Hornby,
&c. Select Committee.

The 31st of July 1778, the Select Committee at Bombay wrote to the Court as follow; viz.

" Mr. Mostyn arrived here from Poona the 12th Instant, with Letters from Morabah, Butchera, and Tookajee Holkar, and a most satisfactory Reply to the Demands made on the Durbar, accompanied with Sunnuds for the Country of Three Lacks, and Proposals for our Assistance on placing Ragoba in the Government. These were all regularly executed under the Sicca, whilst Morabah was chief Minister, but soon afterwards Nannah Furneese, by the Assistance of Madew Scindia, gained the chief Place in the Administration, and deprived Morabah of his Office and the Sicca.

" A few Days after Mr. Mostyn had quitted Poona, and after Nannah had resumed the executive Part of Government, another and a very different Reply to our Demands was sent to Mr. Lewis by the Durbar, and by him transmitted to us, of which a Copy is now enclosed.

" By this Second Revolution at Poona, and the Prospect of an approaching War with France, Affairs were brought to such a State that it became absolutely necessary for us to take the most speedy and decisive Resolutions for our Conduct; and after proper Translations had been made of the Papers brought by Mr. Mostyn, and Colonel Egerton, who had not hitherto assisted at our Secret Consultations, had referred to the Records to inform himself fully on the Subject; we on the 21st Instant, after full Consideration of every necessary Circumstance, unanimously agreed to the following Resolutions, which we think it proper to convey to you in the most expeditious Manner.

" That the Answers delivered by the Durbar since Nannah Furneese resumed the Administration are in the highest Degree vague, evasive, and unsatisfactory, and amount to a Refusal; which aggravated on a Comparison with the Answers given by the preceding Administration.

" That we are authorized by the Letter from the Governor General and Council, dated the 23rd March, to declare the Durbar's Answer to be a Violation on their Part of the Treaty of Poona, and that consequently we are free from all Obligation laid on us by that Treaty, and at full Liberty to pursue whatever Measures we may deem expedient and safe, for the Subversion of a Party that Government, connected with the French in Schemes hostile to the Company, and for establishing an Administration at Poona, with which we can maintain a secure and permanent Alliance.

" That the Situation of Public Affairs in Europe, and the Restoration of Nannah Furneese to the executive Power of Government at Poona, renders it a Case of indisputable Necessity that Measures should be taken with all possible Expedition to effect those Two Points."

" That for the Accomplishment of these Purposes, we pursue the most practicable Measures for placing Ragoba in the Regency at Poona with this special Proviso, that the Government and Succession be conducted and continued in the Name of the Peshwa during his Minority, and surrendered to him on his attaining the legal Age.

" At this Season of the Year it is impossible for us to take any Steps in Prosecution of these Resolutions, further than making the necessary Preparations. In the Beginning of September, when it will be the proper Time to commence our Operations, we may expect to receive Advices from Europe to a very late Date, by the Way of Suez, by which we shall be able to judge how it may be prudent to detach any Part of our Force from Bombay, and in the mean Time we have sent Order to Colorel Leslie to march with the Army under his Command to a Place called Zinn, about 30 Coss to the N. E. of Poona, instead of proceeding to Surat or Broach, as before ordered. That Officer, by Advices just received, dated the 3d of this Month, was then advanced no further than Chatterpore in the Bundelcund Country, at no great Distance from Coulpy; that the Order we have given him, cannot give any further Alarm to the Poona Ministers; our Plan is ripe for Execution, and our Forces ready to act on this Side in Conjunction with Ragoba.

" Morabah

A P P E N D I X, N° 108; 109.

" Moraba and his Party had engaged to join Ragoba with all their Forces, as soon as he had passed the Ghauts ; but we cannot place much Dependance upon them, at least for any immediate Assistance, as Nanah Furneese upon Suspicion of their Designs, has seized and confined most of this Party, and even secured the Persons of Moraba and Bucheba themselves ; yet so much is the Poona Government weakened by the intestine Divisions which have so long subsisted, that we hope we shall be able to effect our Point without much Difficulty, even if Moraba should not be able to join us ; and we doubt not when it is seen that we openly espouse Ragoba's Cause, but many principal Maratta Officers will declare for him, as his Claim and Family are in general favoured by them, and Nanah's oppressive Government detested.

" In the Terms to be made with Ragoba for the Company, we propose to look to nothing further than the Performance of the Treaty of Surat, the total Exclusion of the French, and the Payment of our Expences."

The 29th of December 1778, the Select Committee addressed the Court as follows, viz.

" Our Address of the 31st of July will have informed you how Matters then stood with the Poona Government. In pursuance of the Resolutions then communicated, we on the 12th of October, on the Motion of Mr. Carnac, gave Orders for proceeding forthwith in the Execution of our Plan for restoring Ragoba. The Limits of an over-land Address will not permit us to enter into a Detail of the several Circumstances of our Preparations and Negotiation, which will be communicated by the first Sea Conveyance. It will be sufficient to acquaint you, that on the 25th ultimo, we concluded a Treaty with Ragoba, by which the Honourable Company were bound to assist him with a Body of 4,000 Men to conduct him to Poona, and to place him in the Regency of the Maratta Government during the Minority of the Infant Peshwa."

We have the Honour to enclose a Copy of the Treaty, and of the Manifesto, published when our Forces landed on the Continent, which we hope will be approved of by you ; and we beg Leave most heartily to congratulate you on the Prospect of retrieving those valuable Acquisitions lost by the Treaty of Poorunder, and of restoring such a Government at Poona as will greatly contribute to the general Security of your Possessions in India.

A P P E N D I X, N° 109.

Extract of Bombay Select Consultations, the 28th September 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable Will^m Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Cha^r Egerton,
Dan^t Draper, Esquire.

R E A D the Letter received Yesterday from the Governor General and Council.

This Letter, and the Resolutions to be taken in consequence, being of the most important Nature, the Subject was very seriously considered ; but it is judged best to defer for a few Days fixing upon any precise Measures, as we have every Moment Reason to expect some Intelligence of the success of our Operations against Pondicherry, as well as Advice from Colonel Leslie and other Quarters.

It is remarked as extraordinary in the Governor General and Council having kept us so much in the Dark, respecting the Object of their Negotiation with Moodjee Buncello, and the Nature of the Commission they have given to Mr. Elliott, especially when it appears by their Letters, the Interests of this Presidency may be so considerably affected thereby.

A P P E N D I X, N^o 110.

Bengal Secret Consultations, 28th September 1778.

READ the following Letter from Mr. Lewis at Poona :

Honourable Sir, and Gentlemen,

I did myself the Honour of addressing you last, under the 20th ultimo.

Nanah Furneele having made Madjee Scindy a Present of Three Lacks of Rupees, in order to induce him to consent to Morabah's being sent a Prisoner to Amdanagur, it had the desired Effect for on the 24th July, Scindy removed his People, giving Morabah into Charge of Five hundred Horse, and Two hundred Foot, belonging to Nanah, who set off with him the same Evening to the above Place. It was at one Time determined on sending Buchabah Proonder Prisoner to Portabgo close to Pundapore ; but Scindy afterwards objected thereto, as it belongs to Nanah, and proprie his being sent to Solahpore, on the Kistna ; but Nanah being apprehensive that Hyder's Troops would release him, it was finally determined on confining him in Chundur, close to Settora ; but on his being sent there, the Kelledar refused to take him in, alledging that Buchabah was as much his Master as either Sacaram or Nanah : He has therefore at last been sent to Wundun, a Fort close to the before mentioned, belonging to Bhimrow Panse.

Nanah Furneele, Sacaram Bapoo, Madjee Scindy, Tookajee Holcar, Hurry Punt, and Pursohra Bhow, have all lately come from Proondur, and encamped on the Plain just without the Town, with their Forces, amounting in the Whole to about Twelve thousand Men ; and I am assured, that within a few Days the Durbars have been consulting how they shall oppose Colonel Leslie's March, but are much puzzled what Officer to send ; for Sacaram and Nanah, being mutually afraid of each other will not consent to Scindy's going, as they consider him as the Umpire between them. Hurry Punt has declared his Resolution of not stirring from hence without the Ministers, who are afraid to trust Holcar with a Command ; and Pursohra Bhow must return to Meritz, Hyder's Army being encamped on the other Side of the Kistna, with a determined Resolution of attacking it as soon as the Season opens. However, in order to do all in their Power to prevent Colonel Leslie's advancing, they have sent private Orders to the different Rajahs and Officers through whose Districts the Colonel will be obliged to march, to use every Endeavour, without coming to Action, to harrass him, and prevent his proceeding ; particularly recommending the _____ his receiving Supplies of Provisions at the same Time telling them, should they find their Efforts to oblige him to retreat ineffectual, they are to deny having Authority from this Government for the Opposition they may make, which the Durbar will likewise do, in case of a Complaint of their Behaviour from your Honour, &c. I have already acquainted Colonel Leslie with these Orders, and recommended to him not to trust any Proffers of Service from Madjee Scindy's Officers ; being apprehensive, from his general Character for Deceit, that he may have given the like Orders.

I am also informed, that the Durbar, in order the more secretly to carry on the above Scheme, have determined on sending a Person of Consequence to Bombay, with Proposals to Ragobah ; though, as far as I can learn, they are to be nearly the same as those sent by Mr. Mostyn last Year.

Enclosed I have the Honour to forward Three Letters from the Durbar, in Answer to those from the Honourable the Governor General, received with your Commands of the 8th June ; and beg Leave to observe, Gentlemen, that I have not received an Answer to the Application I made for a Dustuck for the free Passage of your Troops through the Maratta Dominions, as mentioned in my last Address.

I am very respectfully, &c.

(Signed)

W^m Lewis.

Poona,
the 6th August 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° III: .

Extract of Bombay Select Consultations, the 12th October 1778.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton,
Daniel Draper, Esquire.

THE Committee being assembled, Mr. Carnac delivers in the following Minute:

Mr. Carnac is sorry to observe, that " although we had by an unanimous Vote pronounced the Treaty of Poondi under to have been infringed in almost every Article, not a single Step has yet been taken in Protection of our Resolution of the 21st July, and to avail ourselves of the Opportunity afforded by the Distractions in the Bramin Ministry, to exclude Nanah from any Share in the Peshwa Government, who, ever since he has had the Lead thereat, has been incessantly plotting Mischief against us, and to invent in his room, during the Minority of the Peshwa, Ragonaut Row with the chief Administration of the Maratta State, to which he has the fairest Claim, and whose Pretensions good Policy requires us to support, on account of the close Connections we have had with him, and of his known favourable Disposition towards us. The Times will not allow of further Delay; and if we do not soon openly espouse the Cause of Ragonaut Row, there is great Danger that the happy Moment for establishing his Authority, so essential to our Welfare, will be irrecoverably lost. It is not to be doubted that the French have been invited to Choul by Nanah, and should he be joined by Four or Five hundred Men of that Nation (which it may be expected will be the Case) it is to be apprehended he will with their Aid acquire such a Preponderancy in the Government, as to be able to baffle our utmost Efforts, and perhaps to usurp the Dignity of Peshwa. The Degree of Power Nanah actually possesses is already so considerable, that if he be suffered to retain it, the most serious Evils must ensue to the Company from his avowed Enmity to the English, and the French will be admitted to the exclusive Trade and Intercourse with the Marattas, which by a timely Exertion we might have secured, and without which our Possessions on this Side of India are scarcely worth our holding. Mr. Carnac entertaining these Sentiments, is inclined to believe we were warranted, by the most urgent Plea of Necessity in Behalf of the Company's Settlement, to give our most strenuous Assistance to Ragonath Row, for procuring him the Office of it, even independantly of the Governor General and Council; how much more then must he think it incumbent upon us to do, when we have their express Sanction of the Measure; especially as in the present State of Affairs there is no Risque likely to be incurred by the Settlement, during the short Time the Troops may be supposed to be employed in effecting this Service? We do not conceive we ought to be deterred from our Purpose, as it has been argued we should, by the Paragraph in the Governor General and Council's Letter to us, dated 17th August, respecting any Engagements formed with Moodajee Bouncello by Mr. Elliott, and previous Notice to us given. By a Strict Attention to the Words and to the Context, nothing more seems to be meant, than that we should enter into no final Engagements with Ragonath Row, which may be contrary to such as shall be concluded with, or of a hostile Tendency to the Government of Berar. If the Letter is to be understood as containing a Direction that we are absolutely to undertake nothing till we have Advices from Mr. Elliott of the Nature, Progress, and Result of his Commission with the Bouncello, it would be tantamount to a Prohibition of the Expedition we had meditated, and which they have approved, by suspending it to so distant a Period as to leave us little or no Hopes of Success.

" It will be proper here to remark that there is no Reason to believe Moraba's Party is so depressed but that, in Conjunction with the other Favourers of Ragoba, they may render us material Service in the Execution of our Plan; however, at all Events Mr. Carnac deems it our indispensable Duty to use every Endeavour to anticipate, if possible, the French in so important a Point, as they having the prevailing Influence at the Maratta Durbar.

" Our Conduct must appear strangely inconsistent to our Honourable Employers, if, after having so earnestly and repeatedly lamented to them, as we have done, our Misfortune in being precluded by the controlling Power of the Bengal Government, from taking Advantage of these lucky Circumstances which have occurred, we should now remain wholly inactive, when that Government has given us a full Latitude to act, and has provided us with the necessary Resources to do it with Vigour and Effect."

The Subject of this Minute being taken into Consideration, it is thought necessary, before we come to any Resolution, to consult Mr. Mostyn on some Points; who attending accordingly, the Subject of Debate was communicated, and the necessary Papers read to him, he delivers himself as follows:

" If the Committee are determined to take any Measures for placing Ragoba in the Regency of the Poona Government, it evidently appears to me the sooner it is undertaken the better; the REP. VI. 3 T " let's

A P P E N D I X, N° 111. N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117.

" less Opposition you will meet with, therefore the greater Certainty of Success, of which indeed I have not in my own Mind a Doubt, and I do not conceive there can offer a more favourable Opportunity than the present, and for the following Reasons :

" First. The Army is at present dispersed, and though this is the Time for their beginning to join, it will be at least Six Weeks before they are assembled; and even then I do not apprehend that Man will move until they are in some Measure satisfied for the Arrears due to them, now for Years, except a few partial Payments, and the Advance of a further Sum for the ensuing Year, which is usually Two Months Pay : This, it is well known, the Government is in no Capacity to do, and the Disunion amongst the Party now in Power, particularly Saccaram Bappoo and Nanah, which you Gentlemen are well acquainted with, will prevent their adopting any effectual Measures to remove this Difficulty : They will not advance any Money themselves; none but Nanah is indeed able to do it, and no one else, while their Dissensions continue, will lend.

" Secondly. Another very material Reason why it should be deferred as little as possible is, that Holcar, with several other Maratta Officers, now Adherents of Moraba, will naturally conclude, if you let slip this Opportunity, that you have quite given up Ragoba's Cause, and be under the Necessity, for their future Support and Security, to take Part with Nanah : It may occur to the Gentlemen, that Morabah being under some Restraint in Ahmednagur, little Assistance can be expected from him; but I have Reason to believe, and from pretty good Information, that whenever he is convinced of your Determination to espouse Ragoba's Cause, and are landed on the Continent, he can easily effect his Enlargement, and join you on the other Side of the Gauts with Friends.

" Thirdly. That with respect to the Distance of Colonel Leslie's Detachment, though it may be of more Utility if nearer, yet I am of Opinion, they may in their present Situation render a material Service, by keeping Madjee Scindy (in the Neighbourhood of whose Capital they now are) in Awe, should he be inclined to oppose us; but this I think, from his known Character, he will not venture to do, when he finds a respectable English Army along with Ragoba; but be one of the First to make his Submission, not only from the immediate Danger he will apprehend from the count of Colonel Leslie's Army, but in future, from his Knowledge of the Influence the English have over the King, which might deprive him totally of his Jaghier North of the Nerbedah; and sooner you begin, the sooner, in my humble Opinion, will Colonel Leslie be able to advance, and will no Doubt put an immediate Stop to the Opposition and Delay he has and will otherwise continue to meet with.

" Fourthly. But what appears to me the most weighty Reason of all is, that by any further Delay the Danger there is of the French gaining an Influence at the Maratta Court, which I took the Liberty to mention under the 21st July, and which is fully stated by Mr. Cainac; and I can assure you, Nanah will spare neither Pains nor Expence to procure Assistance from them; in which I much fear it will render any future Attempts very hazardous, if not wholly impracticable.

" As you have been pleased to favour me with the Perusal of the Governor General and Council Letter of the 17th August, it is my Duty to inform you, from what Knowledge I have of the Maratta Government, I do not apprehend any Engagement you may have formed with Ragoba, to interfere with the Treaty Mr. Elliott may enter into with Moodjee Buncello, unless in one instance, that of placing Moodjee in the Rajaship. They are both Ministers of the Rajah, and the Government entirely distinct; however, to prevent a Possibility of the Two Treaties clashing, an Article may be inserted in yours, with Ragoba to provide against it."

On full Consideration of all Circumstances, It is Resolved by a Majority of the Committee, Mr. Draper only dissenting thereto, That we forthwith carry into Execution the Plan agreed to under the 21st July last, for conducting Ragoba to Poona, and placing him in the Regency during the Minority of the young Peshwa; and that the necessary Measures for that Purpose be undertaken as soon as possible.

A P P E N D I X, N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117.

Bombay Select Consultations the 19th October 1778.

MR. Draper acquaints us he will deliver in his Reasons in Writing for dissenting to the above Resolution.

At a Select Committee; Present, as in the preceding one.

Mr. Draper now lays before us his Reasons in Writing for dissenting to our Resolution of immediately conducting Ragoba to Poona, as entered at Length after this Consultation.

A P P E N D I X, N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor, &c. Select Committee at Bombay.

" Honourable Sir, and Sirs,

" I am concerned that after concurring with your Honour, &c. not only in the Resolutions of the 21st of July, but with the Board at large in every other since the 10th December last, for conducting Ragonath Row to Poona in quality of Regent, I should think it my indispensable Duty, from the Difference of Circumstances since the first-mentioned Period, to dissent to the Resolution you came to the 12th Instant for doing it at this Juncture, and which I have been further induced to from thinking it a Measure, all Circumstances considered, the most important which has ever been agitated at this Presidency, and for the following Reasons.

" First. Because of the express Conditions contained in the Governor General and Council's Letter of the 17th August.

" Secondly, Because of the Restraint Moraba, Bucheba, and their Adherents, still appear to be under.

" Thirdly, Because of the remote Distance of Colonel Leslie's very considerable Reinforcement.

" Fourthly, Because of the very great Deficiency in our European Force, to the last Establishment ordered by the Honourable Company.

" As to the First Point, Because though the Governor General and Council have approved the Plan of the 21st July, it is only on the following express Conditions:

" That it do not interfere with any Engagement formed with Moodjee Buncello, and previous Notice to you by him.

" On this it must be observed, that we have not yet received a single Line from that Gentleman; but may shortly expect it, conformable to the Governor General and Council's Letter of the 13th July, wherein they tell us, that Mr. Elliott would tend us such Articles as he might agree to with the Rajah; that in the mean Time, to prevent any Step of a contrary Tendency on our Part, they requested we would refrain from forming any Engagements of a Nature hostile to the Government at Poona, except such as may appear absolutely necessary for the Defence of our Possessions. Mr. Motiyn remarks in his Minute, delivered the 12th Instant, that he does not apprehend any Engagement we may have with Ragonath Row, can interfere with the Treaty Mr. Elliott may enter into with Moodjee, except that of placing him in the Rajaship, which possibly may be the very Object they may have in View; as we have had Reason to think, from what the Governor and Council have communicated to us, that it is a Negotiation of a very extensive Nature, and meant to comprehend the Company's general Interests. Mr. Motiyn, to prevent their and our Treaty clashing, proposes, that an Article may be inserted in ours to provide against it; but I refer it to your Honour, &c. whether, consistently with the Secrecy the Governor General and Council have enjoined us in this Respect, and much less without exciting the Jealousy of the Maratta Government, any such Article could be proposed? The Words contained in the latter Part, are so very express and significant, and so much enforced by being repeated in the Third, that I cannot adopt any other than their literal Meaning, especially as by doing it, the whole political System the Governor General and Council may intend to establish, may be entirely unhinged.

" Second Condition, That our late Advices from Europe shall be equal to an Assurance, that the Force required for executing the Plan of the 21st July, may be spared without endangering the Safety of Bombay in the Event of a French Invasion.—Your Honour, &c. will I hope excuse my differing with you on this Point, as I know of no such Advices; on the contrary, you will give me Leave to remark, that the general Tenor of the Honourable Company's Commands this Season, strongly inculcate our merely attending to our own Defence, without intimating the least Idea that they expect we should be able to undertake any offensive Measure. The Governor General and Council have certainly been equally attentive to our Defence; as they, near a Twelvemonth ago, recommended our withdrawing our Europeans from the Subordinates, which has accordingly been done; and your Honour, &c. are sensible, that in their Letter of the 11th July, they even recommended our evacuating Tannah, and the other Forts on Salsette for the same Purpose; and with respect to our assailing in the proposed Reduction of Myhic, ordered us to do it in a Manner consistent with our Safety; which, they added, must be particularly attended to. I am in Hopes we shall not be attacked by the French the current Season; but it is no more than Hope; and so far am I from concurring with your Honour, &c. that a sufficient Force for the intended Service can be spared from Bombay, without endangering the Safety of it in the Event of a French Invasion, that apprehend we shall have few more than the Bandarees and miserable Militia to depend on; or as to recalling any Part of the destined Force, after it has left the Island; in case of such an Event, I think it cannot, in common Prudence, be trusted to.

" Mr. Motiyn in his Minute, delivered the 12th instant, seems very pressing for our embracing the present Juncture; but if I mistake not, he has been equally so since the 10th December last, and I conclude it must have escaped him, that on the 21st July, in Answer to the first Question put to him by your Honour, &c. he replied, that he judged Moraba, Bucheba, and Tookajee Holkar,

" might

A P P E N D I X, N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117.

" might assist us with 30,000 Horse: Such a considerable Assistance, considering that the Two former are under Restraint, and the latter greatly suspected, I think cannot now be reasonably expected; in which Case, according to Mr. Mostyn's Opinion at that Time, the Service will be " come more difficult and tedious; which is corroborated by the 4th Article of the Treaty proposed by Moraba and Maheput Row Trimbrick, even on the Supposition of the above mentioned Assistance, viz. "The English Army that will accompany Dada Sahab shall remain as long as we may have occasion for it, and be dismissed when we may think proper, to which you will take no Objection;" also to Part of the 10th Article, viz. "If the Undertaking should take up Time you will afford such an Encraze of Men and Stores as may be necessary to accomplish it, which after the main Body is gone, I apprehend we should be much at a Loss to make good."

" Third Condition. That the Engagement you may form with Ragonath Row himself, or Moraba and his Associates, be not contrary to those concluded with Moodjee by Mr. Flory, and noticed to you, nor of a hostile Tendency to the Government of Berar.—Having fully marked on the first Condition, to which this is similar, I have only to allow that it would be easy to avoid entering into any Agreement with Ragonath Row or Moraba, of a hostile Tendency to the Government of Berar, but for the Objections noticed under the first Condition.

" Regarding the Second Point, Because it appears by a Letter received from Mr. Lewis, a few Days after transmitting our Plan of the 21st July to the Governor General and Council, that they were then only acquainted that Moraba and Buchebah were seized and confined by Nanah Junieer, and that their Adherents, whether Bramins or Officers, had been seized, and considerable Fines imposed on them; also that Tookajee Holkar had been much disgraced by the Appointment of a Duan contrary to his Inclination, which the Governor General and Council could not be apprised of for some Time after the 17th August, nor of their subsequent Alteration of Confinement otherwise than they might not have approved the Plan in the Manner they have done: And as Mr. Mostyn's Remark, that Holkar with several other Maratta Officers, now Adherents of Moraba, will conclude that your Honour, &c. have quite given up the Cause of Ragonath Row, and under the Necessity of taking Part with Nanah Furneese, I imagine it may be easily obviated by giving them Intimation to the contrary.

" With respect to the other Point, Because it was resolved the 21st July, and Orders sent to Colonel Leslie the Day following, to bend his March to Junieer, about 30 Miles N. E. of Poona, by which Time we could order him to act either in Prosecution of the Plan, by securing the Pusga, and effecting a Junction of our Forces and Ragonath Row, or to proceed on to Bombay, according as our Advices from Europe might render it expedient.—But it seems that your Honour, &c. as well as Mr. Mostyn, are now of a different Opinion, notwithstanding that the Colonel in his last Letter from Rajee Ghur, dated the 25th of August, assures us that he shall be attentive to the Alteration we had thought it expedient to direct in his Route from the Nabedah, and notwithstanding that his Destination hither is in consequence of an urgent Representation of a Want of Assistance for this very Service.

" Fourthly. Because, although I am not acquainted with the exact Deficiency in our European Force, I am sensible that it is a lamentable one, compared with the last Establishment ordered by the Honourable Company in April 1775, of 312 Artillery and 1200 Infantry, and indeed it cannot be better described than in our Letter of the 8th ultimo to Sir Edward Vernon; and I beg leave to remind your Honour, &c. that when you proposed conducting Ragonath Row to Poona December last, you judged it absolutely necessary to request the President and Council at St. George to hold in Readiness a very considerable Body of European Artillery and Infantry with a Battalion of Sepoys to repair hither to assist in our then intended Operations, and we have since that Period received no Reinforcement of Europeans, but what has been recalled from Subordinates.

" But notwithstanding the foregoing Reasons, which have induced me to differ from your Honour, &c. Resolution of the 12th Instant, I beg Leave to assure you I am too well convinced of the Necessity of removing Nanah from the Administration of Affairs in the Maratta Government, &c. reinstating Ragonath Row in Quality of Regent, for the Welfare of this Presidency, and the certain Advantages we may expect to reap from it, in consequence of the Treaty concluded at Surat, not to concur in it, whenever it can consistently and securely be done; and which it appears may be effected with more Propriety, and a much greater Probability of Success, in about 6 Months, as we may by that Time hope the Resolutions, with respect to Mr. Elliott's Negotiations, may be removed, that Colonel Leslie may arrive at the Destination ordered him in July, and the Honourable Company's expected Ships, as also the Squadron, may then be with us; but in any rate, I most sincerely wish the Plan your Honour, &c. have adopted, may be attended with all imaginable Success.

" Being with Respect,
" Honourable Sir, and Sirs,
" Your most obedient and most humble Servant,
" Daniel Draper

Bombay,
16th October 1778.

A P P E N D I X, N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117.

N° 113.

Extract from a Consultation held the 26th October.

Present the same as the foregoing.

In Reply to the Reasons alledged by Mr. Draper, for dissenting from the Resolution of the Committee under the 12th Instant, the other Members who concurred therein have only to observe, that in their Opinion the Success of the Measures determined upon, the absolute Necessity whereof Mr. Draper admits, depend upon its being immediately undertaken; and the Execution will become much more difficult, if not altogether impracticable, by being suspended to so distant a Period as that Gentleman proposes: It is certain that very advantageous Offers have been made by Nanah through Monsieur St. Lubin to the French Nation, in order to engage their Assistance in Support of his usurped Authority; and if a Junction of their Forces with him be once effected, they will acquire so predominant an Influence at the Poona Durbar as will occasion a perpetual Warfare between the Marattas and us, whereby the Company's Possessions on the Western Side of India must be rendered insecure and unprofitable; they therefore deem themselves bound in Duty to their Honourable Masters to prevent (if possible) an Accident so ruinous to their Interests, by a timely Interposition of the only Resource that is left, namely to take Advantage of the present Divisions amongst the Bramin Ministers, to establish Ragonath Row in the Regency, and to assist him with as considerable a Part of our Force as we can spare for that Purpose. Although it is near Two Months since we had the first Advice from the Governor General and Council, of their having deputed Mr. Elliott on an important Embassy to the Government of Berar, we have as yet no Information whatever of or from him, and it is hard to guess when we may; but it is no way likely the Degree of Support we mean to give Ragonath Row can be at all affected by any Negotiation that may be concluded with Moodajee Buncello, for even supposing it should be recommended to him to assert his Pretensions to the Rajaship of Sattara, and that he should in consequence assume that Dignity, it is most probable he would continue the Husht Prandaun Government, taking Care to reduce them to their original Subjection to the Rajah; and the Sovereignty being in the Person of Moodajee, who is in Friendship with the Bengal Administration, it would perhaps be more for the general Interest, that the Husht Prandaun, a Council of Eight, should be dependant.

N° 114.

The Secretary now lays before us a Draft of the Letter from Ragoba to the principal Maratta Officers to be circulated on his landing on the Continent; which being approved, is ordered to be explained to Ragoba, and if approved by him a proper Number of Copies must be made in the Country Language, and the Company's Seal and Ragoba's private Seal affixed thereto.

N° 115.

Extract from a Consultation held in Bombay, 4th November 1778.

Present as before.

As we hope the Forces will be ready to move the next Spring, about the 20th of the Month, it is thought necessary to fix the Method of carrying our Plan into Execution; and as the Appointment of a Committee is thought best suited for the Purpose, the President proposes, that Messrs. Mac, Egerton, and Mostyn, should be the Committee appointed; and they are appointed accordingly.

The said Committee will consider of the further Arrangements necessary for the intended Service, wait upon Ragoba to communicate our Intentions to him, and the Conditions to be previously intimated with him; in which they must enjoin him to observe the utmost Secrecy.

A P P E N D I X, N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117.

N° 116.

7th November 1778.

At a Committee; Present as before.

The President acquaints us, That he has summoned this Meeting at the Desire of Colonel Egerton, who acquaints us, that having through Misapprehension assented to the Appointment of the Committee to accompany the Army to Poona, he now withdraws his Assent, and Dissents thereto, for which he explains his Reasons in Writing as follow:

" A Committee having been appointed a few Days ago, of Mr. Carnac, myself, and Mr. Mostyn, " to treat with Ragoba, as I conceived, for the immediate Transaction of Business on this Island, " I gave my Consent thereto; but having since discovered by Accident, that it is the Intention of " the said Committee to accompany me in that Capacity on the intended Expedition; I desire to know " if that was the Honourable the Governor's Design, when he made the Proposal for forming it at " the Board; and should that be the Case, to declare, that I find myself necessitated not only to " withdraw my Assent to the Measure, but even to enter my Protest against it, for the following " Reasons :

" First, Because I deem it diametrically opposite to the Intentions of the Honourable the Court of Directors.

" Secondly, Because it is morally impossible any Negotiation can take place on the Road, on " which the commanding Officer, with the Poona Ambassador (who will of course proceed with the " Army to his Station) cannot immediately receive the Orders of the Honourable the Governor and " Select Committee.

" Thirdly, Because it appears very clearly, from the Commands of the Honourable Directors of " the 10th April last, received per Ship Caranja, Paragraph the 3d, that in the commanding Officer's " Absence, the Select Committee is to consist till his Return, of the Honourable the Governor, the " Second and Fourth in Council. This can, I think, bear only one Interpretation, viz. that the " Persons abovementioned, and not a Part of them, are competent to act in that Capacity."

After the Discussion of this Matter, the President puts the following Question, in which Messrs Carnac and Egerton decline voting :

Whether Two Members of this Committee can be detached from the Presidency at the same Time, upon any temporary Service? and whether the Two remaining Members are, in their Absence, competent to form a Committee?

Mr. Draper votes in the Negative on this Question, being of Opinion it is the Company's Meaning, that none of the Civil Members of the Committee should be detached from the Presidency when the commanding Officer will likewise be absent, as it would occasion the same Inconvenience they have guarded against in the Paragraph respecting the commanding Officer.

The President is of Opinion, that from the last Paragraph, in Cases of great Emergency, as in the present, Two Members may be absent, or even he himself, if the Service should require it; and that the Remainder can form a Committee in the Absence of the other Two.

The Question being therefore determined in the Affirmative by the President's casting Vote, it is the Resolution of the Committee, That the remaining Two Members, in the Absence of the other Two, are competent to form a Select Committee; and therefore our former Appointment of the Committee to accompany Ragoba stands confirmed.

N° 117.

11th November 1778.

At a Committee; Present as before.

Mr. Carnac delivers in his Opinion on the general Question proposed at our last Meeting, as follows :

" It having been judged highly necessary, that our utmost Endeavours should be exerted to effect " the Removal of the present Ministers of the Infant Peshwa, who are avowedly and inveterately " hostile to us, and to place the chief Administration of Affairs in the Hands of Ragonath Row, of " whose good Disposition towards us we have every Reason to be assured; Mr. Carnac is of Opinion, the Company are so deeply interested in the Event of such a Measure, that the conducting of " it cannot with Propriety be entrusted to any single Person, but that a Committee ought to be " appointed

APPENDIX, N° 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, and 117. N° 118, 119, and 120.

appointed for the Purpose; and as there can scarcely be any other political Business of equal Importance, he thinks One of the Civil Members of the Secret Committee ought to be nominated for that Service. He does not conceive that the temporary Absence of One of the Civil Members, during the Space of Time that may be required for the Accomplishment of the Business we are now about to undertake, can be construed into a Vacancy, or that the Powers of the Secret Committee are to be suspended during the Absence of such Members."

When Mr. Draper acquaints us, that he likewise apprehended, from our Minute of the 4th Number, that the Object of the Committee's Appointment was only confined to settle the Arrangements of Ragoba, previous to his quitting the Island, and was not meant to accompany the Army to Poona, as he thought the Committee for that Purpose was hereafter to be appointed; he also begs leave to observe, that in the Opinion he gave on the 7th Instant, he did not mean to imply that Committee was not competent to transact Business in the Sicknes or accidental Absence of Two of the Members, but only that it was not according to the Meaning of the Company's Orders, that Two of the Members should be detached from the Presidency on any temporary Service.

18th November 1778.

At a Committee; all Present.

Colonel Egerton now delivers the following Minute, in Reply to Mr. Carnac's, entered under the 11th Instant.

Colonel Egerton entirely agrees with Mr. Carnac, that the placing the chief Administration of the Poona Government in the Hands of Ragoba, is a Matter of such important Concern to the Honourable Company, that it ought by no Means to be entrusted to the Management of any One Person singly; and therefore most heartily acquiesces in the Appointment of a Committee for modelling the Business on the Spot, before any Steps were taken publicly and avowedly for his Support; and when it may be effected and ratified with the Sanction and Approbation of the Select Committee, nothing more can remain to be done, but to effect their Orders by the due and vigorous Exertion of the Military Power; for which Purpose he flatters himself the Honourable Directors deem the Services of the Committee needless.

"The Colonel's Objection was solely to the Deviation from the Honourable Directors plain Order, that in the Absence of the commanding Officer the Select Committee is to consist of the Honourable the Governor, the Second and Fourth in Council; he therefore wishes you seriously to consider beforehand, what disagreeable Consequences such a Deviation will be liable to, particularly in the present Case, when it may be thought unnecessary, as any unforeseen Occurrences can in a Couple of Days be communicated to the Select Committee, whose Powers should not be subject to the smallest Shadow of Cavil or Dispute."

APPENDIX, N° 118, 119, and 120.

Bombay Select Consultations, 11th November 1778.

At a Committee; Present as before.

THE Circular Letter intended to have been issued by Ragoba on his landing on the Continent having been explained to him by the Committee, he at first made some Exceptions against it, particularly to that Clause respecting his carrying on the Government as Regent only during the Minority, and the Sicca being continued in the Peshwa's Name. After the proper Arguments on the Occasion had been urged by the Committee, and afterwards by Mr. Mostyn, his Objections appeared to fade and he seemed very ready to agree to the Terms, on Condition we would lend him Three Lacs of Rupees, and indulge him in some other Articles of warlike Stores; but having expressed a desire that the Letter might be left with him for further Consideration, it was accordingly left with him, and to our great Surprise it was returned Yesterday to the President, accompanied with a Paper containing sundry Alterations of a very material Nature, which he proposed should be made therein. These will appear by the Letter itself as drawn out by the Secretary, and the Letter altered as proposed by him, both entered hereafter. The Alteration he has made in the very Title is itself an insurmountable Objection. Mr. Mostyn acquaints us that Mookia Purdhan is the Title only due to the Peshwa

A P P E N D I X, N° 118, 119, and 120.

Peshwa himself; but when we observe that he has totally omitted the Clause respecting the Food on which he is to assume the Government, and promising to continue the Sicca in the Boy's Name, we cannot hesitate a Moment in declaring that we cannot proceed further without entirely renouncing the Principles we have acted upon, and upon which we obtained the Sanction of the Governor General and Council: Resolved, therefore, That the Committee be desired to wait upon Ragoba, and acquaint him expressly that unless he will accede to the proposed Conditions we must immediately give up his Cause, and proceed no further in the Business; that the Alterations above noted, the Omission he proposes, are totally inadmissible, but that we will agree to his being styled Punt Purhan, which Mr. Mostyn acquaints us will be his proper Title, and was the Title used by Badjuar in the Treaty of the Year 1739; and that we cannot pay any Attention to his other Requests until Point is first settled. The Committee must also express our Surprise at his having so greatly recanted from what he had declared both to them and to Mr. Mostyn, respecting those Points, which we do not account for otherwise than by imputing it to the Advice of evil Counsellors, who are in the interest of his Enemies, and have prevailed on him to raise those Objections, purposely to defeat Expectations from us. They must also observe to him, of how much Importance it is that no Time should be lost in moving with our Forces, as our Preparations cannot much longer be kept secret, and when discovered to the Ministers must greatly increase our Difficulties, if not defeat the whole Scheme.

In short the Committee must be very explicit with him, and give him plainly to understand, his Compliance with the Terms offered is a sine qua non.

Circular Letter as drawn out by the Secretary from Ragonath Row Ballajee Badjuar, to all the Mootsedees, Sirdars and Subjects of the Maratta State.

You will no Doubt hear with Pleasure that the Government of Bombay, with the Sanction and Concurrence of the Governor General and Council of Calcutta, have now determined to support my Cause with Vigour, and with the Assistance of the Almighty to place me in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, which you all know is my just Right. The Governor and Select Committee have been moved to this Resolution in my Favour by the unjust Conduct of the present Administration at Poona, who have violated in almost every Article the Treaty concluded with the Honourable Company in March 1776, and by their great Desire to see Peace and good Order restored to the Maratta Empire, which has been so long involved in Troubles and Confusion, and experienced so many Calamities by Mismanagement and the Discord of opposite Factions.

That no Officer or Subject of the Maratta State may be deterred from following the Dictates of his Duty by any Suspicion of the Rectitude of my Intentions, I do in the most solemn Manner declare thus in the Face of the World, that my only View is to remove the Government from the present improper Hands, and to take upon myself the Regency during the Minority of the young Peshwa Madarow Narrain; in the mean Time I shall conduct the Affairs of Government as Regent, and continue the Sicca in the Peshwa's Name, without doing Injury to any one who does not oppose my just Designs, or endeavour to abscond, and shall bury in Oblivion all past Injuries from every Person whatever, unless provoked by any new Act of Enmity after this Notice.

I now call upon you, and require you immediately to join my Forces and the English Army, and to attend me to Poona, where I hope, by the Divine Blessing, to settle the Government upon a safe and solid Footing, and aided by the Advice of upright and wise Ministers, to restore the Maratta Empire to its former Happiness and Splendor.

In further Confirmation of what is herein contained, the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay have caused the Seal of the Honourable Company to be affixed.

N° 119.

Circular Letter (as proposed by Ragoba) from Ragonath Badjerow Mookia Purdhan, or His Minister.

To all the Modseddies, Sirdars, Jaghierdars, and Subjects of the Maratta State:

You will no Doubt hear with Pleasure that the Government of Bombay, with the Sanction and Concurrence of the Governor General and Council of Calcutta, have determined now to support my Cause with Vigour, and with the Assistance of the Almighty to place me in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, which you all know is my just Right. The Governor and Select Committee have been moved to this Resolution in my Favour by the unjust Conduct of the present Administration at Poona, who have violated in almost every Article the Treaty concluded with the Honourable Company in March 1776, and by their Desire to see Peace and good Order restored through my Hands to the Maratta Empire, which has been so long involved in Trouble and Confusion, and experienced so many Calamities by the Mismanagement and Discord of my Servants.

That no Officer or Subject of the Maratta State may be deterred from following the Dictates of his Duty by any Suspicion of the Rectitude of my Intentions, I have in the most solemn Manner granted this, and declare thus in the Face of the World, that my only View is to remove the Government

A P P E N D I X, N° 118, 119, and 120.

vernont out of the present improper Hands, and to take upon myself the Regency, without doing injury to any one who does not oppose my just Designs or endeavour to abet, and shall bury in Oblivion all past Injuries from every Person whatever: But after this Notice you will, without making any fresh Acts of Humanity, come and join my Forces, and attend me to Poona, where I hope, by the Divine Blessing, to settle the Government upon a firm and solid Footing, and restore the Maratta Empire to its former Happiness and Splendor.

In further Confirmation of what is here contained, the Honourable the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay have caused the Seal of the Honourable Company to be affixed.

N° 120.

16th November 1778.

At a Committee; all the Members Present except Colonel Egerton, indisposed.

Mr. Carnac lays before us a Report of the Committee's Conference with Ragoba in consequence of the Resolution of our last Meeting; and further acquaints us, that Ragoba had at last agreed to waive his Demand for having it stipulated in the Treaty, that if the Child should be proved spurious he, Ragoba, should be declared Pešwa; and had put his Sicca to the Circular Letter as drawn out by the Secretary, after a few Alterations of no material Consequence, on Condition that we would engage to represent to the Honourable Company, in the strongest Terms, his most solemn Declaration that the Child is supposititious, and that he can produce the real Father and Mother, and also that he will point out to them the extreme Injustice of his being obliged to hold the Government in the Name of such supposititious Child, and that he will request to receive their explicit Orders by the earliest Conveyance, how we are to proceed in case he should produce unquestionable Proofs of his Allegation, and whether they will permit him then to assume the Government in his Name, which on such Proof will be his undoubted Right. That Ragoba further requested it might be mentioned to the Honourable Company, that in case the Child should prove to be really the Son of Narraim Row, he wished in such case an equal Partition might be made of the Government and Country, agreeable to what he says is the Gentoo Law.

Resolved, since Ragoba is so earnest in his Request, That a Representation to the above Effect be made to the Honourable Company.

Ordered, That a proper Number of Copies of the Circular Letter be made in the Gentoo Language, and that it be entered after this Consultation in the Form it now stands.

Ragoba's Relation of the Transaction between him and Mr. Shaw, respecting the Grant of Ahmood, stated in the Committee's Conference, being next considered, the Broach Records are referred to, where we cannot discover any Trace of the Promise Ragoba mentions, but on the contrary, it appears by the Proceedings of the Chief and Council, under the 8th June 1775, that the Cession of Ahmood was a voluntary Gift from Ragoba to the Honourable Company, and that the Grant passed through the proper Forms, by which a considerable Expence was incurred; the Grant itself is entered upon the Broach Records, under the 25th September of the same Year; Resolved, therefore, That Ragoba has Right to expect from us the Performance of the Promise said to be made by Mr. Shaw on that Account, but that we will consent to receive the Cession of Ahmood on the same Terms he has offered Hansford, namely, as a Mark of the Regard to the Honourable Company; and mention it to them in that Light.

As a Supply of Money will be absolutely necessary to enable Ragoba to proceed; Resolved, That a Loan be made him of Three Lacks of Rupees; which the State of our Treasury at Bombay and Surat will enable us to make without Inconvenience, and the Season for Collection now coming on.

His Request for a Supply of Military Stores, as specified in the annexed List, being next considered, it is agreed to let him have 1,500 Stand of Arms with their Accoutrements, and Four or Five Guns and their Carriages, with the particular Gun he points out, and the Flints and Gunpowder. We cannot spare any Howitzers, but it must be represented to Ragoba, that our Army will carry a sufficient Train and Ammunition, and that any Thing further will only be an Encumbrance; and therefore such only of the Articles as he may have Occasion for will now be delivered, and the Remainder afterwards.

A P P E N D I X, N^o 121, 122, 123, and 124

Bombay Select Consultations, the 18th November 1778.

THE Draft of the proposed Treaty with Ragoba is now laid before us by the Secretary; having been seriously and deliberately discussed, Article by Article, it is, after a few Alterations, approved.

Ordered, That a Translation thereof, in the Maratta Language, be immediately made, and sent to Ragoba for his Inspection, who must be desired to fix a short Day to meet us, to execute and sign the Treaty.

Articles of Agreement and Treaty between the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor, and the Select Committee of Bombay, on the Part and Behalf of the Honourable United English East India Company, on the one Part, and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, the other Part; done and concluded at Bombay this Day of November, in the Year of our Lord 1778.

Article 1st. The Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton with Siccaramy Pundit and Ballajee Phad, Ministers, in Behalf of the Peshwa and the Maratta State, having been violated by those Men in almost every Article, the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay, with the Sanction and Concurrence of the Governor General and Council, do hereby engage and agree in Behalf of the above Company, to assist Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan to the utmost of their Power, to put him in Possession of Poona, and to place him in the Regency of the Maratta Empire during the Minority of young Peshwa Maderow Narrain, hereby declaring that the true Intent and Meaning of this Treaty is not to alter the Form of Government, or to interrupt the Peace between the Honourable Company and Maratta State, but only to remove the Administration out of the present improper Hands, and to place in the Regency the Man who has the justest Title to that Office.

2d. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, on his Part, doth hereby engage and agree to accept the Office of Regent, which he is to exercise with full Power during the Minority of the Peshwa Maderow Narrain, in whose Name he further engages to continue the Sicca and conduct the Government; but Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, having expressed his Doubts of the Legitimacy of the Peshwa Maderow Narrain, the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay do hereby engage, on Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan his strong Solicitations, to request explicit Orders from the Company, whether in case he should prove to their Satisfaction that the Child is suppose to be they will place him in the Peshwaship, which, on such Proof, will be his unquestionable Right; whether in case the Child should prove to be really the Son of Narrain Row, they will guarantee him an equal Division of the Government and Country, on the Peshwa attaining the Age of seventeen, agreeable to what Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan says he is entitled to by his Birthright according to the Gento Law.

3d. The Governor and Select Committee of Bombay do hereby stipulate, and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, for their Satisfaction, and that his upright Intentions may appear more clearly, doth hereby engage and agree, that the Person of the Peshwa Maderow Narrain shall be kept under the Charge and Custody of such Persons as may be agreeable to the Select Committee.

4th. Morabah Furnessie, Butcheba Pronder, and Tookajee Holcar, having invited Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan to take upon himself the Government as Regent, and promised the same, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage, upon their performing their Promise to the Select Committee's Satisfaction, that he will shew Favour to them according to their Ranks, settling the Offices of Government, and that their Persons and Fortunes shall be unimpaired.

5th. Any Articles respecting the internal Management of the Government, or the Appointments or Removal of Officers, can be better settled by Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan on his Person, faithfully promising to observe the Terms mentioned in the Circular Letter, with respect to the personal Safety of those whom he may be of Opinion have injured him.

6th. In Consideration of the Assistance to be afforded by the Honourable Company for placing Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan in the Regency at Poona, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage to confirm and ratify the former Treaty concluded with him at Surat in May 1775, and to cede and make over to the Honourable Company for ever, the several Places and Territories granted by the said Treaty, which were restored by the Treaty of Poorunder, and Bassein and its Districts, and the Island of Kennery, which were not put in Possession of the Company. The several Acquisitions which will devolve to the Honourable Company by virtue of this Treaty are as follow:

Bassein Fort and Town, and the whole of its Districts and Dependencies in the fullest Extent, according to the just and fixed Boundaries of that Province,

Jamboree

A P P E N D I X, N° 121, 122, 123, and 124.

Jamboosier and Orpad. In the same full and ample Manner as ceded by the Treaty of Surat.
The Island of Kennery.

~~An Allignment upon the Purgunnah of Occlasier for the Sum of Rupees 75,000 per Annum,~~
~~as settled by the 8th Article of the Treaty of Surat.~~

There being some small Places known by the Name of the Autgoms, always annexed and actually making a Part of the Island of Sallette, which have been withheld from the Company by the Poona Ministers, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage and agree that the said Autgoms shall be ceded to the Honourable Company.

7th. In Addition to the several Grants and Cessions hereinabove specified, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage and agree to cede and make over for ever the Purgunnah of Ahmednud Hantood; which Grants are to be considered as an Instance of his Good Will and Affection to the Honourable Company.

8th. All the Places herein ceded to the Honourable Company are to be considered as their sole Right and Property from the Day this Treaty is executed, without any Claim of Chout to the Maratta Government, or any other Demand whatever, and may be taken Possession of by the Company's People whenever they think proper; for which Purpose Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdham doth with hele Presents deliver the necessary Orders to the Maratta Officers to surrender the said Places. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth further promise and engage, that immediately after taking Charge of the Regency at Poona, he will execute and deliver to the Government at Bombay regular Sunnuds, under the Peshwa's Seal, for the several Cessions granted to the Honourable Company by this Treaty.

9th. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan engages to pay and make good the Charges and Expences of the Army and Stores with which he is now to be assisted, which he hereby faithfully promises to make good in ready Money, ~~as soon as~~ as the Situation of his Affairs will possibly permit; and for the further Security of the Honourable Company, till the Account due for the Expences of the Army is fully discharged when all Right and Title thereto on the Part of the Honourable Company will be relinquished.

10th. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan engages to pay in full for the Body of Forces, consisting of 4000 Men, with which he is to be assisted, the Sum of Two Lacks and a Half of Rupees per Month, which the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay agree to accept without further Account in full of every Expence attending the Army, and is to commence from the Day the Forces leave Bonibay.

11th. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan faithfully promises to discharge his present Debt to the Honourable Company, as soon as the State of his Finances will permit, agreeable to an Account which will be delivered to him.

12th. The English Forces are to continue with Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan until the Object of this Treaty is accomplished, which is to place him in the Regency of Poona; and when that effected, they are to be at all Times ready to assist Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan with their Forces, so far as may be consistent with their other Engagements, or the Situation of their own Affairs will permit.

13th. The several Treaties and Agreements subsisting between the Government of Bombay and the Miratta Government are hereby ratified and confirmed in as full Force, as when they were first concluded, unless otherwise provided for in the Treaty.

14th. After the Establishment of Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan in the Regency at Poona, there shall be a firm Peace and Alliance between the Honourable Company and the Maratta Government; Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan engages never to assist the Enemies or molest the Dominions of the Company in any Part of India, nor to make War or commit Depredations in the Carnatic, or any other Part of the Dominions of their Ally the Nabob of Arcot: The Governor and Select Committee of Bombay in like Manner engage in Behalf of the Honourable Company, not to assist the Enemies of Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan.

15th. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan hereby engages and agrees that no European Settlements shall be allowed to be made on the Maritime Coasts, or any other Parts of the Maratta Dominions, without the Content of the Company, or of their Representatives being previously obtained, and that no Manner of Intercourse or Connection shall be maintained between the Maratta Government and the French Nation; any Failure in which Stipulation will be considered as a Breach of the Alliance between the Maratta Government and the Honourable Company.

16th. When the contracting Parties have mutually interchanged this Treaty, it will be sent to Bengal for the Ratification of the Governor General and Council.

17th. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, doth hereby stipulate and engage, that the English shall enjoy all their former Privileges and Freedom of Trade within the Maratta Dominions without Interruption; and he further engages to give all possible Encouragement to the Honourable Company's Trade, and to promote as far as he can, an exclusive Vend to the English for European Commodities in the Maratta Dominions.

18th. If any Article of the present Treaty should interfere with any Engagements formed by Governor General and Council, not yet known to the Select Committee of Bombay, such Article may be altered or amended as may be necessary.

The foregoing Articles having been mutually agreed to by the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay, on the Part of the Honourable Company, and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan,
the

A P P E N D I X, N° 121, 122, 123, and 124.

the Contracting Parties have interchangeably affixed their Hands and Seals, and the Seal of the Honourable Company, in Bombay Castle, the Day and Year above written.

19th November 1778.

The Secretary, by the President's Order sent round the following Note to the Members; on which they gave their Opinions subjoined to the Note.

To the Worshipful John Carnac, Esquire, &c. Members of the Select Committee.

Gentlemen,

The 16th Article of the proposed Treaty, as settled Yesterday by the Committee, appearing to the President, on further Reflection, to be a greater Concession than the Gentlemen at Bengal are by Law entitled to, and not only unnecessary in this Case, but a Precedent which may be very dangerous to the Influence and Dignity of this Presidency; he has therefore ordered me to new model this Article, and I have the Honour to send it round for your Opinion.

I am, with Respect,

Gentlemen, &c. &c.

Edward Ravenscroft, Secy

Thursday,

19th November 1778.

I conceive the Act of Parliament obliges us to submit the proposed Treaty to the Control of the Governor General and Council; and therefore prefer the Article approved of Yesterday to that now proposed to be substituted for it.

Daniel Draper.

I in a great Measure agree with the President; however, as our Determination of this Matter may be attended with serious Consequences, I think it should be fairly debated in the Committee; and after hearing a full Discussion of the Arguments in favour of the several Opinions, we shall be better able to resolve.

John Carnac.

I have this Moment received the Act; and therefore will not delay giving my Opinion; viz.

That in this whole Affair, we are bound to proceed with the Sanction and Approbation of the Supreme Council, which is already obtained for our private Justification; but it is needless to make any public Mention thereof in the Treaty.

Charles Egerton.

N° 122.

Extract from a Consultation held in Bombay, 21st November 1778.

The Committee, except Mr. Draper, indisposed, assembled in the President's Chamber, who is also much indisposed; when he communicates to them a Letter from Mr. Lewis, and one from Ragoba to the Gentoos Translator; by which it appears, and which is likewise confirmed from various Quarters, that the Ministers have got Intimation of our Intentions, and are making Preparations to oppose us.

Resolved, upon this Intelligence, That it is necessary no Time should be lost in moving the Forces; And as the Spring Tides now serve, and the Colonel acquaints us the Preparations are in sufficient Forwardness, Resolved, That the First Division, under Captain Stewart, be embarked with To-morrow Night's Tide, and proceed to Apta, to secure Bhore Gaut; and that another Division proceed immediately after, to secure Bellapore Fort for a Magazine, and support the First Division, in case of Necessity; and that the Remainder of the Forces proceed afterwards with all Expedition.

The President desires that Mr. Carnac will take upon him the Execution of the necessary Measures to forward the intended Service; and acquaints him, that he has given Orders for securing all the Boats and small Craft of this Island and Salsette; and desires that Mr. Carnegie may be immediately ordered to send the Boats from Caranja, which, being best acquainted with the Navigation of Apta River, will be most proper to transport Captain Stewart's Division.

The Boats are to be arranged in Divisions, under the Command of Marine Officers.

Ordered, That all Communication between this Island and the Continent be immediately stopped, and Advice sent to Mr. Lewis, that he may take the necessary Measures for his own Security.

The several necessary Points must be adjusted with Ragoba as soon as possible; for which Purpose Mr. Molyn will immediately wait on him.

The

A P P E N D I X, N° 121, 122, 123, and 124.

The 16th Article of the proposed Treaty being now re-considered, the Act of Parliament is referred to; wherein we find it laid down, "That it shall not be lawful for any President and Council, &c. to make any Orders for commencing Hostilities, or declaring or making War, against any Indian Princes or Powers, without the Consent and Approbation of the Governor General and Council first had and obtained." It therefore certainly follows, that it is lawful for us to do and perform the Things aforesaid, when we have obtained such Consent and Approbation, which is the present Case: And the proposed Article appears the more unnecessary and superfluous, after the Recital in the First Article, that we have proceeded with the Sanction and Approbation of the Governor General and Council. Such a Stipulation must create much Distrust and Doubt in Ragoba; and certain we are, that it would entirely destroy the Consequence and Dignity of this Government in the Eyes of the Country Powers, and be attended with many bad Consequences to the Company's Interests; for after we have proclaimed in our Negociation, that we have obtained the Consent of the Governor General and Council, which is necessary to be done, as their controlling Power is universally known, if, when we come to the Point, we declare that we have no Authority to conclude a final Engagement, what trifling Light must we appear, and what Power will waste Time in treating with us? Resolved, therefore, for the above Reasons, and those recorded in our Proceedings under the 9th Instant, and because we have adhered strictly to the Principles upon which we obtained the Sanction of the Governor General and Council, That the 16th Article of the proposed Treaty, as it now stands, is highly improper and unnecessary; and that the following be substituted in lieu thereof, which will provide equally well against our Treaty interfering with the Engagement Mr. Elliott may form with Moodajee Buncello, and which was our sole Object in the Article as first drawn out.

Amended Article. If any Article of the present Treaty should interfere with any Engagement formed by the Governor General and Council, not yet known to the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay, such Article may be able to be altered or amended, as may be necessary.

N° 123.

22d November 1778.

At a Committee; all Present but Mr. Draper, indisposed.

Messrs. Carnac and Egerton, Mr. Draper being indisposed, met in the President's Chamber, who still continues very indifferent; when Mr. Molbyn reports that he had a Conference with Ragoba, on the Subject of the proposed Treaty, who objected to several Parts thereof, and promised to send some of his People this Morning to meet Messrs. Carnac, Egerton, and Molbyn, in order the more fully to explain his Objections.

If the final Execution of the Treaty should take up more Time than we expect, Ragoba must be desired in the mean Time to put his Sicca to some of the Letters to be sent over with Captain Stewart's Party, which we before agreed is to embark this Evening.

Immediately on the Committee's breaking up, Messrs. Carnac, Egerton, and Mostyn, had a Meeting with Four Agents from Ragoba, with whom they had a tedious Conference of upwards of Four Hours, which ended without any Thing conclusive being settled. The principal Objections made by the Agents were, First, to the Article providing for the Security of the Child's Person; in which they want to have specified, the Place of his Residence, the Persons Names who were to have the Charge of him, and also the Fort wherein he might be kept, should he be under Ragoba's Orders. Secondly, To the Article respecting Moraba, &c. which they wanted to have altered in such Manner as to leave him entirely dependant on Ragoba's Pleasure, and to be considered by him in the Distribution of the Offices, as he might think their Services might merit. Thirdly, They insisted an Express Article should be inserted, stipulating that the Select Committee should not in any Shape interfere in settling the internal Government.

The Agents declaring they had no Power to relax from these Demands, and Messrs. Carnac, Egerton, and Mostyn's Arguments being ineffectual, the Conference broke up.

The Poona Committee particularly desired the Agents to get some of the Circular Letters, signed by Ragoba, to be sent with Captain Stewart's Party; and the Company's Linguist waited on him for that Purpose, but Ragoba refused to sign the Circular Letter till he executed the Treaty.

The Committee send a Message to Ragoba, desiring him to meet them at 10 o'Clock To-morrow Morning; which he agrees to.

At 11 P. M. Captain Stewart's Division, having embarked in the Afternoon, weighed with the Tide, and stood over to the Apta River.

23d November 1778.

At a Committee; all the Members Present.

Ragoba now meets the Committee according to Appointment, when, after a Conference of near Seven Hours, he agreed to execute the Treaty, with some small Alterations which were made at his earnest Desire, and promised to put his Sicca to some of the Circular Letters this Evening.

A P P E N D I X, N° 121, 122, 123, and 124. N° 125.

Previous to his taking Leave, he requested the intended Loan might be enlarged from Three to Four Lacks of Rupees, pleading, as he had obliged us in the Affair of Ahmood, ~~he had a Right~~ to expect that Favour; which being a very just Plea, it is agreed to grant his Request, and cannot doubt but the Honourable Company will approve the Loan, considering the valuable Acquisitions we shall gain from them by the Treaty.

Ragoba desiring that the Treaty, when fair copied, may be sent to him to execute, the Secretary is ordered to get it ready with all Expedition, when it will be sent to him by a Deputation.

N° 124.

Ragoba then took his Leave of the Committee with the usual Ceremonies.

The Second Division of the Troops, under the Command of Lieutenant Colonel Cay, proceeded to Bellapore.

Ragoba returned Six of the Circular Letters, executed under his Sicca, which were immediately countersealed with the Company's Seal, and Four of them sent over to Captain Stewart.

Colonel Charles Egerton proceeded in the Yatch to Billapore.

The Committee met in the President's Chamber, and executed the Treaty, which in the Evening was sent to Ragoba by Mr. Mostyn.

The Committee, except Colonel Egerton, with the Army, assembled in the President's Chamber.

Mr. Mostyn reports, That Ragoba, notwithstanding his Presence at the Meeting with the Committee, after the Treaty had been fully canvassed, and every Article particularly explained to him, still refused to sign it, unless an Addition was made to the Third, more fully providing for the Charge of the Child's Person, in case Perwettyboy should decline the Offer; and that he likewise objected to the Article ceding over the Autgoms, alledging, that they were not anciently annexed to the District of Salfette, and insisting, that the Value of this Cession should be ascertained, and not to exceed a certain Sum.

As we much wish to remove all Doubts from Ragoba, and to give him Satisfaction, so far as we consistently can; Resolved, That we consent to the following Additions being made to the disputed Articles:

To the 3d. " In case Perwettyboy should refuse to undertake the Charge, the Child shall be put under the Care of any of his Relations by the Mother's Side."

To the 6th. " But although the Governor and Select Committee have even understood that the Autgoms made a Part of the Island of Salfette, yet if the contrary should be made plainly to appear, they will give up their Claim."

But as we have experienced so much Evasion and Delay on the Part of Ragoba; Resolved, That the following Message be sent to him, if he should not agree to the Treaty with the above Additions:

" That we are determined not to permit of any further Additions being made in the Treaty.
" That if he refused to execute it in its present Form, we shall drop all Connection with him, and take Possession of the Government at Poona, in the Name of the Peshwa, and carry it on in his Name, until we receive Orders from Bengal whom to appoint Regent; and that in the mean Time we shall not permit of his continuing such a Number of armed Men on the Island, but shall insist on their being immediately dismissed."

N° 125.

27th November 1778.

At a Committee, PRESENT;

The Honourable the President and Mr. Carnac,
Colonel Egerton being with the Army, and Mr. Draper indisposed.

M R. Mostyn reports that Ragoba is not satisfied with the Addition made to the 3d Article, and wanted to have it stipulated, that in case the Persons specified therein should decline the Charge, the Child should then be put under the Charge of such Persons as may be agreeable to him (Ragoba) and to the Select Committee.

A P P E N D I X, N° 125, 126.

As the dangerous Tendency of this Clause is obvious, by giving Ragoba an absolute Negative in the Choice of Guardians for the Child, and we cannot be too guarded in every Stipulation that regards its Safety; it is relieved at all Hazards to reject the proposed Addition: But still, as we are very anxious to have the Treaty concluded, and unwilling it should be known at Poona that any Disagreements subsist between us and Ragoba; it is agreed to consent to the following Addition being made to the 3d Article, which is the furthest we can go to satisfy Ragoba: And in this Place we judge it proper in Justice to him to declare, that we firmly believe the many Objections he has raised to the 3d Article do not proceed from any evil Designs against the Child, but occasioned entirely by his Fears that we should place the Child under the Charge of Moraba, or some of the great Officers, which would give them too great an Ascendancy; for if any of them should have the Child in their Hands they will in fact have the Government.

Further Addition to the 3d.

" But in case all these should decline the Trust, the Child shall then be disposed of in such Manner as may be deemed most advisable for his Security, and for the Honour of the contracting Parties."

Mr. Mostyn acquaints us that he delivered the Message to Ragoba agreed to Yesterday, as he still hoped the Matter would be accommodated, which is approved.

In the Afternoon Mr. Sibbald, the Company's Interpreter, was sent out to Ragoba with the proposed Addition to the Article; which after much Argument he agreed to, and the necessary Alterations having been made to the Treaty, Ragoba put his Sicca to it this Night.

The Treaty with Ragoba as finally settled and executed is as follows.

A true Copy.

Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the Select Committee.

N° 126.



Ragoba's
Sicca.



Seal of the
Company.

(Signed)
Edward Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the Select Committee.

Articles of Agreement and Treaty between the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor, and the Select Committee of Bombay, on the Part and Behalf of the Honourable United English East India Company, on the one Part, and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan on the other Part, done and concluded at Bombay this Twenty-seventh Day of November in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy-eight, or the 3d Day of Jeclud Soohursun Tiffah Subein Miah wa Alluff, or Year 1179 Mahometan Style, or according to the Gentoo Æra, the 5th Day of Manguashier Sood, in the Year Vellamby 4,700.

Article 1st.

THE Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton with Siccaram Pundit and Ballajee Pundit, Ministers, in Behalf of the Peshwa and Maratta State, having been violated by those Ministers in almost every Article, the Governor and the Select Committee of Bombay, with the Sanction and Concurrence of the Governor General and Council, do hereby engage and agree, in Behalf of the aforesaid Honourable Company, to assist Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan to the utmost of their Power, to put him in Possession of Poona, and to place him in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, during the Minority of Mhadarow Narrain, the Infant Peshwa; hereby declaring, that the true Intent and Meaning of this Treaty is not to alter the Form of Government, or to interrupt the Peace between the Honourable Company and the Maratta State; but only to remove the Administration out of the present improper Hands, and to place in the Regency the Person who has the justest Title to that Office.

Article 2d.

Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, on his Part, doth hereby engage and agree to accept the Office

A P P E N D I X, N° 126.

Office of Regent, which he is to exercise with full Power during the Minority of the Peshwa Mhdarow Narrain; in whose Name he further engages to continue the Sicca and conduct the Government: But Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan having expressed his Doubts of the Legitimacy of the Peshwa Mhadaiow Narrain, the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay do hereby engage on Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan his strong Solicitation, to request explicit Orders from the Company, whether, in case he should prove to their Satisfaction that the Child is supposititious, they will place him in the Peshwaship, which, on such Proof, will be his unquestionable Right; and whether, in case the Child should prove to be really the Son of Narrow Row, they will guarantee him an equal Division of the Government and Country, on the Peshwa's attaining to the Age of Seventeen, agreeable to what Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan says he is entitled to by his Birthright, according to the Gentoo Laws.

Article 3d.

The Governor and Select Committee of Bombay do hereby stipulate, and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan for their Satisfaction, and that his upright Intentions may appear manifest, doth hereby engage and agree, that the Person of the Peshwa Maderow Narrain shall be kept under the Charge and Custody of such Persons as may be agreeable to the Select Committee, who wish that the Child may be committed to the Charge of Perwettybhoy, if she will undertake the Charge; and in such Case the Matchy of Poorunder where the Child is kept must be guarded with a Party of the Company's Troops, and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan may keep a Chowkey on the Outside of the Gate to see that no improper Persons be admitted; but no Person whatever must have Admittance to the Child's Presence without Permission of Perwettybhoy. In case Perwettybhoy should refuse to undertake the Charge, the Child shall be put under the Care of any of his Relations on the Mother's Side; but should all these decline the Trust, the Child shall then be disposed of in such Manner as may be deemed most advisable for his Security and for the Honour of the contracting Parties.

Article 4th.

Morabah Forneese, Butchebah Pronder, and Tookajee Holcar, having invited Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan to take upon himself the Government as Regent, and promised their Assistance, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage, upon Condition of their performing their Promises to his and the Select Committee's Satisfaction, and behaving like faithful obedient Servants, that he will shew Favour to them according to their Ranks and Services in settling the Offices of Government, and that their Persons and Fortunes shall be unmolested.

Article 5th.

The Governor and Select Committee engage not to interfere in the Appointment or Nomination of Officers to the Forts, Army, Artillery, or Revenues, or in the Management of the Government, provided nothing be done in breach of any of the Articles of the present Treaty, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan on his Part faithfully promising to observe the Terms mentioned in the Circular Letter, with respect to the personal Safety of those whom he may be of Opinion have injured him.

Article 6th.

In Consideration of the Assistance to be afforded by the Honourable Company for placing Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan in the Regency at Poona, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage to confirm and ratify the former Treaty concluded with him at Surat the 6th March 1773, and to cede and make over to the Honourable Company for ever the several Places and Territories granted by the said Treaty, which were restored by the Treaty of Poorunder and Bassein, and its Districts, and the Island of Kennery, which were not put in Possession of the Company. The several Acquisitions which will devolve to the Honourable Company by virtue of this Article are as follows:

Bassein Fort and Town, and the whole of its Districts, and its Dependencies in their full Extent, according to the just and fixed Boundaries of that Province.

Jamboter and Orpad, in the same full and ample Manner as ceded by the Treaty of Surat.
The Island of Kennery.

An Assignment upon the Purgunnah of Occlaeer for the Sum of 75,000 Rupees per Annum, as settled by the 8th Article of the Treaty of Surat.

There being also some small Places known by the Name of the Outgoms always annexed, and actually making a Part of the Districts of Salfette, which have been withheld from the Company by the Poona Ministers, Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby engage and agree that the said Outgoms shall be ceded to the Honourable Company: But although the Governor and Select Committee have ever understood that Outgoms made a Part of the Districts of Salfette, yet if the contrary should be made plainly to appear they will give up the Claim.

Article 7th.

In Addition to the several Grants and Cessions herein specified Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth

A P P E N D I X, N° 126.

Both hereby engage and promise to cede and make over the Purgunnahs of Ahmood and Banfood, which Grants are to be considered as an Instance of his Good-will and Affection to the Honourable Company. The Conditions upon which they were formerly granted not having as he decries been fulfilled.

Article 8th.

All the Places herein ceded to the Honourable Company are to be considered as their sole Right and Property from the Day this Treaty is executed, without any Claim of Ought to the Maratta Government, or any other Demand whatever, and may be taken Possession of by the Company's People whenever they may think proper; for which Purpose Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth with these Presents deliver the necessary Orders to the Maratta Officers to surrender the said Places. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth further promise and engage, that immediately after his taking Charge of the Regency at Poona he will execute and deliver to the Government at Bombay regular Sunnuds under the Peshwa's Seal for the several Cessions granted to the Honourable Company by this Treaty.

Article 9th.

Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan engages to pay and make good the Charges and Expences of the Army and Stores with which he is now to be assisted, which he hereby faithfully promises to make good in ready Money as soon as the Situation of his Affairs will possibly permit, and for the further Security of the Honourable Company he by these Presents signs over the Purgunnah of Versial and the Remainder of Ceclater, the Revenues of which are to be collected by his Amildas, and paid to the Honourable Company till the Amount due for the Expences of the Army is fully discharged; but in case of Failure thereby these Purgunnahs are to be put in Possession of the Company, and the Revenues collected by them, till the said Amount is fully discharged, when all Right and Title thereto on the Part of the Honourable Company will not interfere with the said Purgunnahs.

Article 10th.

Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan engages to pay in full for the Body of Forces, consisting of 1000 Men, with which he is to be assisted, the Sum of Two Lacs and Half of Rupees per Month; which the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay agree to accept without further Account, in full of every Expence attending the Army, and is to commence from the Day the Forces leave Bombay.

Article 11th.

Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan faithfully promises and engages his present Debt to the Company, as soon as the State of his Finances will admit, agreeable to an Account which will be delivered to him.

Article 12th.

The English Forces are to continue with Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan until the Object of this Treaty is accomplished, which is, to place him in the Regency at Poona; and when that is effected, they are to be at Liberty to return to Bombay. The Company will be at all Times ready to assist Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan with Forces so far as may be consistent with their other Engagements, or the Situation of their own Affairs will permit.

Article 13th.

The several Treaties and Agreements subsisting between the Government of Bombay and the Maratta Government, are hereby ratified and confirmed, and shall be held and continued in as full Force as when they were first concluded, unless otherwise provided for in this Treaty.

Article 14th.

After the Establishment of Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan in the Regency at Poona, there shall be a firm Peace between the Honourable Company and the Maratta Government. Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan engages never to assist the Enemies, or molest the Dominions of the Company in any Part of India; nor make War or commit Depredations in the Carnatic, or any other Part of the Dominions of their Ally the Nabob of Arcot. The Governor and Select Committee in like Manner engage in Behalf of the Honourable Company, not to assist the Enemies of Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan.

Article 15th.

Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan hereby engages and agrees that no European Settlements shall be allowed to be made on the Maritime Coasts, or in any other Part of the Maratta Dominions, without the Consent of the Company, or of their Representative, being previously obtained; and that no Manner of Intercourse or Connection shall be maintained between the Maratta Government and the French Nation, any Failure in which Stipulation shall be considered as a Breach of the Alliance between the Maratta Government and the Honourable Company.

Article 16th.

Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan doth hereby stipulate and engage that the English shall enjoy all their former Privileges and Freedom of Trade in the Maratta Dominions without Interruption, and he further engages to give all possible Encouragement to the Honourable Company's Trade, and to promote as far as he can, an exclusive Vend to the English for European Commodities in the

A P P E N D I X, N° 126, 127.

Maratta Dominions; but the Honourable Company will make no Settlement therein without Permission from Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan.

Article 17th.

If any Article of the present Treaty should interfere with any Engagement formed by the Governor General and Council, not yet known to the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay, such Article may be liable to be altered or amended as may be necessary.

The foregoing Articles having been mutually agreed to by the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay, on the Part of the Honourable Company and Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan, the Contracting Parties have interchangeably affixed their Hands and Seals, and the Seal of the Honourable Company, in Bombay Castle, the Day and Year above-written.

William Hornby,
John Carnac,
Daniel Draper.

A true Copy.

Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the Select Committee.

Ragoba's Sicca.

Company's Seal.

A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

Bombay, 7th December 1773.

The Diary and Proceedings of John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mofly, Esquire, appointed by the Honourable the President and Select Committee of Bombay a Committee to accompany Ragonath Row to Poona.

^{Monday, 7th.} A Packet from the Honourable the Select Committee directed to John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mofly, Esquire, the Committee proceeding to Poona, having this Day been delivered to Messrs. Carnac and Mofly, they embarked on board the Yacht for Panwell in order to meet Ragoba, and proceed with him from thence to join the Army under the Command of Colonel Egerton, now on its March towards Bhore Gauft.

^{Tuesday, 8th.} Landed at Panwell at Six A. M. and hearing that Ragonath Row had passed that Place in his Way from Callian, determined also to proceed with the utmost Expedition: The Want of Bullocks, &c. for the Transport of our Baggage, prevents our setting out this Day; but expecting a Supply from the Commissary of the Army, hope to be able to proceed early To-morrow. Learned that the Army was last Night at Chowke: The Inhabitants of Panwell had mostly deserted with their Effects.

Burwa, 9th December.

^{Wednesday, 10th.} Proceeded to Burwa; where finding that Ragonath Row was up in the Fort of Purbull, where he had been Three Days, sent him a Message acquainting him with our Arrival. He sent Word in Return that he should come down To-morrow Morning: That Amrit Row with all his Baggage, Gurs, &c. were ordered to march from Panwell to Burwa, and when they arrived he would accompany to the Army.

At Eight P. M. received a Letter from Amrit Row directed to Mr. Carnac, wherein he informed him, he had his Father's Orders to march and join him at Panwell, but the Want of Bullocks for the Transport of his Baggage had prevented him; that the Bullocks which he had hired had been taken for our Army; that he was endeavouring to procure others, and would march to join him To-morrow Morning. A Village near the Fort of Purbull despatched.

Chiswick

A P P E N D I X, No 127.

Chintoo Wittol waited on us, and acquainted us in the Name of Ragonath Row, that he requested ^{Thursday, 11} we would remain at Burwa this Day; that To-morrow he would certainly come down and settle with us about proceeding to the Army: Though our present Delays do not appear in the least to retard the Marching of the Army, yet in pursuance to the Instructions of the Honourable the Select Committee to expedite as much as possible our March to Poona, it was thought fit to avail ourselves of this Opportunity to urge to Ragonath Row the Necessity of this Point; and therefore a Letter was written by Mr. Carnac in Return to this Officer, acquainting him, that from his Message of Yesterday it was hoped he would have come down this Morning, and therefore that he (Mr. Carnac) had proposed to proceed to Chowke this Afternoon; but that in Consequence of his Message by Chintoo Wittol, that he would certainly come down To-morrow, and letting he would wait till then, he had determined to remain where he was, but earnestly entreated he would lose no Time, as his Affairs required the utmost Dispatch; and any further Delays might be attended with Inconveniences by giving his Enemies Time to strengthen themselves, that he therefore depended on having the Pleasure of seeing him To-morrow Morning.

This Afternoon Amrut Row came from Panwell on a Visit. The Receipt of his Letter was mentioned to him, and he was desired to be expeditious in forwarding the Baggage of his Father Ragonath Row from Panwell. He said it would be here To-morrow, and that he should return instantly for that Purpose.

At about One, P. M. Ragonath Row came to us. After previous complimentary Discourse, the Utility of his speedy Appearance above the Gautts being represented to him, he acquiesced therein; and it was settled, that as soon as Amrut Row had joined him, he would proceed directly with us to Condolah, and there remain till the Army and heavy Baggage had come up, and act in pursuance to the Advice we might give him, relative to the remaining Point of reaching Poona. He desired we would proceed ~~as~~ to Colipore, where he would follow us To-morrow, with Amrut Row, whom he expected at Burwa this Morning. In consequence of this, we determine to proceed on to Chowke, in our Way to Colipore. Arrived in the Evening, and found it almost deserted. Many Complaints made of our Sepoys plundering.

Friday, 12

At about Two, P. M. descending from Chowke, where Ragonath Row was just arrived, and proceeded on to Colipore. At Half past Ten at Night, a Message came from Ragonath Row, informing us that some of his Cannon and heavy Baggage not being come up, would prevent him from proceeding on to Colipore To-morrow. Colipore chiefly deserted, and Complaints brought of our Sepoys plundering.

Saturday, 13

Colipore, 13th December 1778.

This Morning Intelligence was received that Ragoo Ram of Vambury, Tapkeer, and Bandy, left Poona last Monday, with 1,500 Horse and 3,000 Foot, in order to come down Dew Gau, towards Tully Gonfalah, which is about Twelve Cols to the Southward of Bhore Gau. As it seems probable that the Enemies of Ragonath Row, if they mean to act with Vigour, should advance a Body of Men into the Conkan, as well to distract us for Provisions on our March, by cutting off our Communication with Panwell, as to endeavour to seize the Person of Ragonath Row, whom they may have heard has not yet joined our Army, we think it requisite to apprise him of this Intelligence, and desire that he will immediately move forwards to the Army at Campoly. It is also necessary that Colonel Egerton should be acquainted with the Receipt of this Intelligence, and to direct Lieutenant Harvey at Panwell to be on his Guard, and to have Boats ready for shipping off my Stores at a Moment's Warning.

Sunday, 14

From John Carnac, Esquire, to Ragonath Row.

I received your Message last Night, acquainting me, that some of your heavy Cannon being still hind, you should not be able to leave Chowke this Day, and requested I would therefore remain at Colipore till you could join me.

It is necessary to inform you, that I this Morning received Intelligence, that Ragoo Ram of Vambury, with 1,500 Horse and 3,000 Foot, together with Tapkeer and Bandy, left Poona on Monday last, with an Intention of coming down Dar Ghautt, into the Conkan. As your personal Safety is the first thing that must be attended to by your Friends, I must take the Liberty to advise you to secure it, by joining the English Army at Campoly as soon as possible. In full Confidence that you will follow my Advice, I shall immediately proceed towards that Place, and hope at length to have the Pleasure of seeing you there To-morrow.

J. Carnac.

Colipore,
13th December 1778.

To

A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

To Colonel Charles Egerton, Commander in Chief of the English Forces, Campoly.

Sir,
Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn have directed me to acquaint you, that Intelligence has been received this Morning, of the March of 1,500 Horse and 3,000 Foot from Poona, on Monday last, with the Intention of coming down Dew Gau, towards Gonjalah, about Twelve Cosas to the Southward of Bhore Gau. If the Enemies of Ragonath Row mean to oppose him with Vigour, it seems probable that they should advance a Body of Men into the Conkan; and therefore they have thought it requisite to apprise you of this Intelligence having been received, that you may take such Measures a consequence as may appear to you expedient.

They further direct me to inform you, that they mean to proceed from hence this Day, towards Campoly; and that they hope to be able to join you, with Ragonath Row, To-morrow or next Day at farthest.

I am
Your obedient humble Servant,
W. G. Farmer,
Secretary to the Council.

Colipore,
13th December 1778.

To Lieutenant Harvey, at Panwell.

Sir,
Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn have directed me to acquaint you, that Intelligence has been received of the March of a Body of Troops from Poona towards the Conkan; and they have thought it to advise you of this, that you may be on your Guard, and have Boats in Readiness to transport to Billiapore the Detachment with you, and such Stores as may be at Panwell.

Should not the armed Boats which you mentioned to them when at Panwell, have yet been sent to you; you will please immediately to forward a Copy of this Letter to Bombay, as an Instance of the Expediency of its being sent forthwith.

Colipore,
13th December 1778.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
W. G. Farmer,
Secretary to the Council.

Hull, 13th December 1778.

At Six in the Evening arrived at a Tope near the Village of Hull, about 3 Miles from Campoly. The Inhabitants of the Village all fled.

No Answer being yet received from Ragonath Row to the Letter addressed him by Mr. Carnac, and, contrary to our Hopes, no Appearance of his advancing this Evening nearer to our Army met Colonel Egerton, the following Reflections occur on the Retardment that seems studiously to have been made of his Junction with our Forces. There is no Point which his Enemies have not been so studiously aimed at as to possess themselves of his Person, for many evident Motives. In the Situation which Nanah Funeecze appears to be, to us it seems probable, that he would attempt this as his best and most certain Resource for retaining the Government, and for defeating the Hopes of the People that may be formed in favour of Ragonath Row. It seems beyond a Doubt, that he receives a certain Intelligence of every Thing that passes relative to Ragoba, and perhaps some of the Persons in his Confidence may be engaged with Nanah Funeecze to embrace any Opportunity to seize and carry him off. It must be owned, that if the Conduct of Ragonath Row has been regulated by such treacherous Advisers, it concurs strongly with other Circumstances, to warrant the Supposition that a Design is formed for seizing him. He was first led to Callian; from thence to the Fort of Purba, where he remained 4 Days. When he came down, he promised to leave his heavy Baggage behind him, and proceed directly to our Army. This was almost a Proposal of his own. The next Day he sent Word, that one of his heavy Cannon being retarded, he should remain at Chowke a Day longer; and now, notwithstanding the Advice that was this Day sent him, he still remains at Chowke, which is at least 11 Miles from our Army at Campoly, a Distance that renders it impracticable to send a timely Aid, should any Design be formed by his Enemies to possess themselves of his Person. These several Circumstances concurring with the Advice received at Noon, of the March of a Body of Men on Monday last towards the Conkan, render it our Duty to take the best Measures in our Power for effectually securing the Person of Ragonath Row, whose Seizure would be equally disgraceful, distressing, and disadvantageous to us, in the present State of our Connection, with our Allies. This may be done, we apprehend, by advancing a further Guard instantly for his Protection. We are therefore resolved to send Mr. W. G. Farmer directly to Colonel Egerton at Campoly, to state our Ideas to him, and recommend it to him, to order a further Guard or not less than 300 Sepoys, to be immediately advanced to Chowke, for the Protection of Ragoba. A Message was also sent to Ragonath Row as above stated.

At 10 at Night Mr. Farmer returned from Campoly, and informed us, that having acquainted Colonel Egerton fully with our Opinions, as above set forth, the Colonel returned for Attur.

A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

The Army was but just come to its Ground, and that it would be harrassing the Men too much to march them back 10 or 11 Miles to Chowke; that he apprehended the Guard now with Ragonath Row was sufficient for the Security of his Person, and if it was not thought sufficient, it would be much easier for Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn to advance the Guad with them, than to send one from the Army.

No Answer being yet received from Ragoba to the Letter sent him Yesterday, Mr. Sibbald was ^{Mondy, 14th.} sent at about 9 A. M. to represent suitably to him our Apprehensions of what might possibly be the Designs of his Enemies; and to engage farther to him our Wishes, that he would effectually secure his Person by advancing nearer to our Army.

Received the following Letter at 9 A. M. :

To W. G. Farmer, Esquire, Secretary to the Committee appointed to accompany Ragonath Row.

Sir,
I am directed by Colonel Egerton to acquaint you, that he has received your Letter of this Date, and that he is much obliged to Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn for the Intelligence they have sent him. He thinks there is nothing to be apprehended from any Opposition the Enemies of Ragonath Row may attempt against him in the Conkan; but he will however take such Measures in consequence as to him shall appear necessary.

The Colonel is very glad to hear he may so shortly expect the Pleasure of seeing Ragobah and Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn, at Campoly.

Campoly,
13th December 1778.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient humble Servant,
M. Murray,
Secretary to Colonel Egerton,
Commander in Chief.

At about 10 A. M. an Answer was received from Ragonath Row to the Letter written him Yesterday, of which the following is a Translate :

To John Carnac, Esquire.

After Compliments:

You sent me a Letter, in which you mention News being received of the March of the Horse, &c. of the Bharobies to the Conkan, and recommend me to move on to Campoly. I also got Intelligence that their Horse was come to the Gau; but now they are gone back: Should they perchance come down, I will seize them; there is nothing to fear. I have great Trouble to get Bullocks and People for my Cannon and Baggage; but I will use my best Endeavours, and To-morrow or Tuesday will arrive at Campoly: You will please to send me 300 Men. Why should I write more?

13th December:

At about Six in the Evening Mr. Sibbald returned from Ragonath Row, and brought an Answer in Substance the same as the foregoing Letter. He further expressed himself much obliged for the Attention shewn to his Safety; and though, by the Detachment with him and his own Guards, he apprehended no Danger, yet if convenient he would farther wish to have the Force sent him proposed by Mr. Carnac. Mr. Sibbald had persuaded him to advance beyond Colipore; as he is now within about a Mile from hence, it does not appear requisite to advance any further Guard for his Protection.

At about Eight this Evening the following Letters were received, under Cover, to Mr. W^r Lewis, from the Camp at Campoly:

To William Lewis, Esquire, at Poona.

Sir,
This is purposely to enclose you Duplicate of a Letter to the Honourable Select Committee, together with one wrote yourself on the 31st ultimo.

Since my last, I have left Ballagee's Territories, and am arrived within Four Cos^s of Seronge, which I leave upon the Right, and proceed towards Bhopall.

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A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

I have met with no material Interruption since my last Letter : Upon the Day of quitting Baghee's Territories, his Troops made their Appearance, and made repeated Attempts to carry off Baggage, &c. in all which they were however baffled; for knowing the deceitful Character of Maratta, I had, notwithstanding his peaceful and amicable Protections, observed the most particular Precautions against any treacherous Designs he might intend to me.

The Nature of the Service I am engaged in requiring me to avoid all unnecessary Delays, I proceeding towards Narbuddah, and shall at present defer giving the Chatiment due to Baghee's Conduct.

Camp, 4 Cos from Seronge,
12th November 1778.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,
Thomas Goddard.

To Captain James Stewart.

Honoured Sir,

A Letter came from Goa, dated the 3d of October, written by William Bolts, and directed to Monsieur St. Lubin: He mentioned in his Letter, he sent what News he could pick up, viz. The French have acknowledged the avowed Independency of the Americans, but Spain will not join them. Prussia has declared War with Austria for their Pretensions in Bavaria; the Ottoman Porte, declared War with Russia: Some say 16, others 22, Ships of War have sailed from Toulon, some say are destined for America, others say for India; that Hyder Ally has given him a Factory at Billeapatam, one at Mangalore, and one at Canvaar, in the Neighbourhood of Goa; the Nabob Scindy has given him a Factory at Tattah and Shabunda; he desires St. Lubin to acquaint Nanah Furneeze that he was very willing to serve Nanah if he pleases, in making an Union between Poona Durbar and Hyder Ally; and promises the utmost Secrecy, Fidelity, and Obedience to Nanah's Command and Instructions; he also mentions, that if Nanah does not employ him in this Manner, he will shortly return to Bombay. The East India Company send out 21 Ships under Convoy this Year, and Two Regiments of Infantry are destined for Bombay: He desires St. Lubin to send Nanah's Determination concerning the Affair of Gogah, but he is not anxious about it, because Scindy and Dumaon will be sufficient for him in this Part of India. Thomas Barnes explained this Letter to the Durbar, and gave me this Extract.

Dadajee Adoujee.

Addressed the Honourable the Select Committee as follows:

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee, Bombay.

Gentlemen,

The Occasion of the present Dispatch is to forward you a Letter from Colonel Goddard, under Cover to the Resident at Poona; as a Letter he writes at the same Time to Mr. Lewis informs us generally of the Contents of his Dispatch to you, and as we have not your express Permission to open Letters directed to you, we have forborn to take that Liberty at present, but beg Leave to submit to you the Propriety of having this Permission in future, as a speedy Knowledge of the Contents of Advices both from the Governor General and Council, and from Colonel Goddard, may hereafter be very important to us in our Negotiations.

We have also thought fit to forward to you without Loss of Time, Copy of a Letter from Dadajee Adowjee at Poona to Captain Stewart; because as it seems this Mr. W^m Bolts means shortly to proceed to Bombay, you will be able to judge of the Danger of admitting to an English Person who under neutral Colours appears to be immediately connected with our most dangerous Enemies, both in Europe and this Country: The Mode in which this Intelligence was obtained by Dadajee Adowjee appears to be through Thomas Barnes, an Englishman, who has been long in the Service of the Poona Government, and is usually employed by them to explain intercepted Letters written by Europeans.

Although we arrived at Panwell so long ago as the 8th Instant, yet owing to the various Delays of Ragonath Row, whom we wished to keep as near to us as possible, we have not yet joined Colonel Egerton: As these Delays have in no Shape we believe retarded the March of the Army, they cannot have had any material Consequence; but as the Appearance of Ragonath Row above the Gautts must tend to encourage his Partizans, and to expedite the Accomplishment of what the Committee have in charge, by inducing those Partizans either to join him or to act openly and decisively in his Favour, we have never ceased to urge to him the Propriety of proceeding expeditiously; and having once brought him to consent to leave his Cannon and heavy Baggage to come on at Leisure, we hope in a Day or Two to be able to advise you of his being at Condolah.

The 13th Instant we received Intelligence of the March of 1500 Horse and 3000 Foot from Poona towards the Conkan. If the Enemies of Ragonath Row mean to act vigourously it seemed to us they would endeavour to intercept our Communication with Bombay, as well in the Hope of distressing us by cutting off our Supplies of Provisions and Stores, as perhaps with a View to attempt something against the Person of Ragonath Row, whom they must have known went first to Callian and afterwards up to the Fort of Purbole; we therefore advised Colonel Egerton of the Receipt of this Intelligence, and have persuaded Ragonath Row to advance nearer to our Army: There has yet been no Advice

A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

Advice of these Troops having entered the Conkan; on the contrary, it appears to us by a Letter Yesterday from Ragonath Row, that they had advanced to the Gautt, but retired again.

Dadajee Adowjee also writes to Mr. Lewis under the 11th Instant, that Sacaram and Nanah have ^{Tuesday, 15th} dispatched one Amrut Row to Sattarah, with Orders to proclaim a new Rajah, and to procure from him a Succa to Mhadoo Row Narrain.

Hull, One Coss from Campoly,
15th December 1778.

We are with Respect,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient Servants,
Jn^o Carnac,
Tho^o Mostyn.

P. S. We are just advised that Two 6 Pounders were Yesterday got up the Gautts by Hand, and are now with the Detachment at Condolah under Captain Stewart.

Campoly, 15th December 1778.

At Six in the Evening arrived at the Camp at Campoly: The Secretary to the Committee sent the following Summons to Colonel Egerton and Mr. Mostyn:

To Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire.

Gentlemen,

I am directed by Mr. Carnac to request you will please to meet him at his Tent To-morrow at Ten o'Clock, in order to open and peruse a Packet from the Honourable the Select Committee of Bombay, addressed to John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire, the Committee proceeding to Poona.

I am, with Respect,
Gentlemen,

Camp at Campoly,
15th December 1778.

Your most obedient humble Servant,
W. G. Farmer,
Secretary to the Committee;

Received a Letter from Dadajee Adowjee at Poona to Captain Stewart, dated the 14th Instant, forwarding one from the Nabob of Tall Bopaal to Mr. Lewis, which he could not read; but that he had learned that Colonel Goddard was arrived at Tall Bopaal, and had staid there Eight Days; that the 13th Instant a new Rajah was proclaimed at Sattarah, but that the Sicca was not yet arrived; that some Person had desired him to acquaint Mr. Lewis that Ragojee Angria, who was a Relation of Scindia's and entirely devoted to the Ministers, intended to offer Ragoba 1000 Horse for his Service, with a View to betray him.

The Letter from the Nabob of Tall Bopaal mentioned the Arrival of the Bengal Army in the District of Bopaal, and that agreeable to what had been written him, he (the Nabob) should furnish the Colonel with Grain, and afford him any other friendly Aid in his Power.

In consequence of the Contents of the Letter received Yesterday from Dadajee Adowjee, Mr. Carnac at Nine A. M. sent Mr. Sibbald to Ragoba, to advise him of the Intelligence received relative to the treacherous Designs of Angria; to caution him against those Designs; and to advise him to advance nearer to our Army.

^{Wednesday, 16th}

At a Meeting of the Committee; PRESENT,

John Carnac, Esquire,
Colonel Charles Egerton.
Mr. Mostyn indisposed.

Opened a Packet from the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay, directed to John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire, the Committee proceeding to Poona, containing the following Papers:

Instructions, dated 5th December 1778.

Commission to the Committee.

Gentoo Copies of Ragonath Row's Circular Letter.

Copy of the Translation of D^o.

D^o of the Treaty concluded between the Select Committee and Ragonath Row.

D^o of the Cypher framed for Colonel Leslie.

D^o of the Treaty of Surat.

Perused

A P P E N D I X, N^o 127.

Perused the Commission and Instructions directed to the Committee.

Resolved, That the Copy of the Commission be sent to the Commander in Chief of the Army, who is directed to publish it in General Orders.

Colonel Egerton requesting it, the Secretary is also directed to furnish him with a Copy of the Instructions to the Committee.

Mr. Mostyn being indisposed, and no further particular Business offering;
Adjourned.

John Carnac,
Ch. Egerton

We the President and Select Committee for all Political, Military, and Naval Affairs of the Honourable United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, on the Coasts of India, Persia, and Arabia, and of His Majesty's Castle and Island of Bombay;

To all to whom these Presents shall come, Greeting.

By virtue of a Power given us by the Honourable Court of Directors of the said United Company, and derived unto them from the Authority of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, and His Royal Predecessors, do nominate and appoint you, John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire, a Committee forconcerting and conducting all the necessary Operations, Political and Military, for conducting Ragonath Row Badjerow Purdhan to Poona, and for placing him in the Regency of the Maratta Government; hereby giving you full Power to execute and perform all Matters and Things in any way appertaining or conducive to the due Discharge of the Trust reposed in you, agreeable to the Instructions herewith delivered to you. And we hereby require and order all Factors, Officers, Servants, or others, in the Service of the Honourable Company, that may be employed in this Service, to conform, submit, and pay due Obedience to you, John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire; you following all such Directions as shall be given you by us, or by the President and Select Committee for the Time being, pursuant to the Trust hereby reposed in you. Sealed with the Seal of the aforesaid Honourable Company, and given under our Hands in Bombay Castle, this Fifth Day of December, in the Nineteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Third, and in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy-eight.

W^m Hornby,
Jn^r Carnac,
D. Draper.

L. S.

Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the
Select Committee.

To John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire.

Gentlemen,

You are well informed of the several Steps that have led to the Conclusion of a new Treaty with Ragonath Row, by which the Honourable Company are bound to assist him with a Body of Forces, to conduct him to Poona, and to place him in the Regency of the Maratta Empire.

As the Welfare, and we may almost say the Existence, of this Presidency, will depend on the Success of the Measure we have embarked in, we have thought it proper to commit to you the Execution of our Plan; and you are appointed a Committee, and by the accompanying Commission vested with the necessary Powers to concert and conduct all Political and Military Operations in the Course of this Expedition; relying upon your Zeal, Address, and Judgment, to bring the Business to a speedy and happy Conclusion.

Upon Receipt hereof Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn are to proceed with all convenient Expedition to Panwell, where the Army intended for this Service is now encamped, under the Command of Colonel Egerton. Ragobah proceeds by the Way of Tannah; and as soon as he has joined the Army, we direct that you urge him to march without Loss of Time to Poona, a Measure which we trust will be effected with little Difficulty or Opposition, as the Passage of the Ghauts is already secured by Captain Stewart's Division; and we have strong Reasons to believe that a very general Disposition prevails amongst the Maratta Officers and People in favour of Ragobah and his Pretensions.

You will not fail strongly to inculcate to Ragobah the Necessity of his making himself Master of Poona without a Moment's Loss of Time, and take the utmost Care to keep him steady to this Point, which ought to be and must be his first Object; for according to the Treaty we are only bound to put him in Possession of Poona, and to place him in the Regency of the Maratta Empire; and it is equally for his Interest and the Company's, that it should be accomplished in the most expeditious Manner possible.

W^e

A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

We shall deliver to you herewith a Number of circular Letters under Ragobah's Sicca and the Company's Seal, and a Translation thereof for your Notice: These are to be sent to the principal Officers, and dispersed over the Country, that our Intentions in bringing over Ragobah may be made known to all Ranks of People; and if after this Declaration your March should be opposed by the Poona Ministers, or their Adherents, we hereby authorize you to repel Force by Force, and to conduct Ragobah to Poona against all Opposition.

If Overtures should be made on the March to Poona by any of the Maratta Chiefs or Ministers, you will assist Ragobah with your best Advice, and promote to the utmost of your Power any Accommodation that you may judge favourable to our Views, which are to connect Ragobah with Men of Influence and Estimation in their own Country, and well inclined to the Honourable Company; and in this Light we must regard Moraba Furneeze, Tookajee Holcar, and Butcheba Pronder, in the foremost Rank.

We flatter ourselves that from the Experience Ragobah has had of our Attachment, and his Confidence in your Judgment and Regard to his Interest, that he will pay great Attention to your Advice upon all Occasions; and the better to secure your Influence, we recommend to you to cultivate his good Opinion by every consistent Method: We are likewise very earnest in our Injunctions, that you use every Means in your Power to conciliate the Minds of the People in general to the English, and to the Undertaking we are engaged in; for which Purpose no Violence must be offered to the Persons or Property of those who remain quiet in their Habitations, and every Act that can give Offence to the religious Scruples of the Gentoos must be carefully avoided.

After Ragoba is put in Possession of Poona, you are to see him placed in the Regency, and the Sicca put into his Hands, with all the usual Forms and Ceremonies, and upon the Terms stipulated in the 2d Article, from which we cannot admit the smallest Deviation: Our Part of the Treaty will then be performed; but here will begin a Task, in which the utmost Delicacy and Judgment will be necessary on your Parts, to secure on a firm and permanent Footing the Advantages by which we were attracted to this Expedition, and on which the Safety of this Presidency will so much depend; namely, the entire Subversion of the Party in the French Interest, and filling the Offices of Trust under the Poona Government with Persons well disposed towards the Honourable Company.

By the Copy of our Treaty with Ragoba, now put into your Hands, you will see the Limitations we are under with regard to our Interference, in the Appointment or Nomination of the Officers of Government. You are well acquainted how much Ragoba's Jealousy was excited by our Stipulations in favour of Morabah Furneeze, Butcheba Pronder, and Tookajee Holcar, which you will see duly performed; and for the rest, it must be your Rule, by a Line of judicious Conduct, to make the Persons you approve of, the Men of Ragobah's own Choice. We could wish, and we imagine, Morabah will expect to be Ragobah's Dewan, though it is not improbable that Ragobah may for some Time at least conduct the executive Part of Government himself, but this is entering upon a Matter so much depending upon future Circumstances, that we shall waive saying any Thing further at present, as we shall have sufficient Time to give you more explicit Instructions when we are better informed.

It will be particularly requisite that Ragobah should, as soon as possible, place the Forts in the Conkan, and upon the Sea Coast, under the Charge of Persons we can depend upon for Obedience to his Orders, and that will oppose the Admission of the French into any Part of the Maratta Dominions; on which Head you must desire Ragobah to give them immediate and particular Instructions, according to the Terms of the Treaty.

The personal Safety of the young Peshwa is a Point wherein our own Reputation and the Honour of the Nation are so deeply concerned, that we give it you in Charge, with the most implicit Confidence of having our Intentions faithfully executed, and that every Precaution be taken your Prudence can suggest, or the Treaty will warrant, to prevent any Possibility of Injury happening to him.

The other Parts of the Treaty that will rest with you to see executed, are to receive from Ragobah the Monthly Stipend for the Payment of the Forces, and the Sunnuds under the Peshwa's Seal, for the several Places ceded to the Honourable Company, which we shall rely on your Care to see punctually performed as soon as Ragobah's Circumstances will permit.

As it is highly proper that this Garrison, considering the State of Affairs with France, should be in a respectable Situation, we recommend it to you, and hereby give you a discretionary Power, to return to Bonibay such Part of the Forces as you may think can be spared, whenever you may judge the Objects of this Expedition are brought to such a Point as to admit of the Force being lessened with propriety.

We recommend and enjoin as a Point very essential to the Success of this Expedition, that the utmost Harmony and good Understanding be observed among yourselves; and in order to avoid all Mistakes or Misconceptions, we think it proper to describe the following Line between the Powers of the Committee and the Commanding Officer, which must be strictly observed by both.

All political Intercourse with Ragobah must be confined entirely to the Committee, who are to have the sole Management of all Matters of Negotiation.

The Execution of the general Plan of the Expedition, being as before mentioned entrusted to the Committee, it is our Intention and Order that the Decision and Determination on Points that may appear to them conducive to the Accomplishment thereof, shall rest solely with the Committee, and the Commanding Officer hereby enjoined punctually to comply with all Requisitions made to him in writing by the Committee on all such Points.

A P P E N D I X, N° 127.

On the other Hand, the Committee is hereby expressly prohibited from interfering in the Detail of the Duty of the Army, or from prescribing to the Commanding Officer, in respect to the Mode of March or Encampment, or the Method of carrying any Military Measure into Execution; all of which are the distinct Province of the Commanding Officer.

We have given Orders to the Commanding Officer agreeable to the above, and directed him to appoint a Guard, and treat the Committee with all proper Respect.

The Correspondence with this Board must be conducted solely by the Committee, who likewise advise the Governor General and Council of all material Transactions. Mr. Lewis left the Company's Cypher buried at Poona, but we now furnish you with a Copy of one we framed in our Correspondence with the late Colonel Leslie, which will serve your Purpose till your Arrival at Poona.

A regular Diary must be kept of all your Proceedings and the Motions of the Army, in which every Circumstance of Moment must be punctually recorded, and Two Copies thereof delivered to you on your Return.

Your Expences will be defrayed by the Honourable Company, and we permit you to keep Table at their Charge suitable to your Station.

The Accounts of your Paymaster and Commissary of the Army must be subject to your Inspection and Control, and you will take Care they are forwarded to the Presidency, at the stated Times as you may judge reasonable. The Paymaster has been furnished with a Lack of Halt of Rupees; and should that Sum be expended before you can obtain a Supply of Money from Ragobah, we have given Authority to those Officers to pass their necessary Drafts upon us, subject to your Approbation.

Mr. W^m Gamul Farmer is appointed your Secretary and Maratta Translator, for both which Offices he is to be paid an Allowance of Three hundred Rupees per Month. Mr. James Ray is ordered to the Assistance of Mr. Farmer, in his Business of Secretary, and is likewise to act as Chaplain to the Army.

Mr. James Sibbald, who is under Order for an Embassy to Hyder Ally, is to act as your Interpreter, and is to be dispatched to Hyder's Court from Poona, whither we shall send his Instructions in due Time.

We wish you all possible Success and Honour in the Discharge of your important Commission, and are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servants,

W^m Hornby,

Jn^o Carnegie,

D. Draper.

Circular Letter from Ragonath Row Budjetow Punt Purdhan.

To all the Mootsedees, Sirdars, Jaghiredaars, and Subjects of the Maratta State.

You will no doubt hear with Pleasure, that the Government of Bombay, with the Sanction and Concurrence of the Governor General and Council of Calcutta, have now determined to support my Cause with Vigour; and, with the Assistance of the Almighty, to place me in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, which you all know is my just Right. The Governor and Select Committee have been moved to this Resolution in my Favour by the unjust Conduct of the present Administration at Poona, who have violated, in almost every Article, the Treaty concluded with the Honourable Company in March 1776; and by their Desire to restore, through my Hand, Peace and good Order to the Maratta Empire, which has been so long involved in Trouble and Contusion, experienced so many Calamities by Mismanagement and Discord.

That no Officer or Subject of the Maratta State may be deterred from following the Dictates of his Duty, by any Suspicion of the Rectitude of my Intentions, I have in the most solemn Manner granted this Circular Letter; and declare thus in the Face of the World, that my sole View is to remove the Government out of the present improper Hands, and to take upon myself the full Power of Regent, during the Minority of the young Peshwa Madoo Row Narrain, without doing Injury to any one who does not oppose my just Designs, or to endeavour to abscond; and I shall bury in Oblivion all past Injuries from every Person whatever, unless provoked by any gross Acts of Enmity after this Notice.

I now call upon and require you immediately to join my Forces and the English Army who are with me, and to attend me to Poona; where I hope, by the Divine Blessing, to settle the Government upon a firm and solid Footing, and to restore the Maratta Empire to its former Happiness and Splendour.

In further Confirmation of what is herein contained, the Honourable Governor and Select Committee of Bombay have caused the Seal of the Company to be affixed.

A true Copy.

Edw^d Ravenscroft,

Secretary to the Select Committee.

Purush

A P P E N D I X, N° 127, 128.

Pursuant to the Resolutions of the Committee this Day, the Secretary wrote the following Letter to the Commander in Chief of the Army.

To Colonel Charles Egerton, Commander in Chief of the English Forces at Campoly.

Sir,

I am directed by the Committee appointed to proceed with Ragonath Row to Poona, to enclose you a Copy of the Commission from the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay, vesting them with the necessary Powers to concert and conduct all political and military Operations in the Course of the present Expedition; and to require you to publish the said Commission in the General Orders to the Army under your Command.

I am, with Respect,

Sir,

Campoly,
December 16th 1778.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

W. G. Farmer,
Secretary to the Committee.

A P P E N D I X, N° 128.

Extract of Secret Letter from Bombay to the Court of Directors, dated 29th December 1778.

OUR Addressees of the 31st of July will have informed you how Matters then stood with the Poona Government. In pursuance of the Resolutions then communicated, we, on the 12th of October, on the Motion of Mr. Carnac, gave Orders for proceeding forthwith in the Execution of our Plan for restoring Ragobah. The Limits of an overland Address will not permit us to enter into a Detail of the several Circumstances of our Preparations and Negotiations, which will be communicated by the full Sea-Courier inc; it will be sufficient to acquaint you, that on the 25th ultmo we concluded a Treaty with Ragobah, by which the Honourable Company were bound to affit him with a Body of 4000 Men, to conduct him to Poona, and to place him in the Regency of the Miratta Government, during the Minority of the Infant Peshwa.

We have the Honour to enclose a Copy of the Treaty, and of the Manifesto published when our Forces landed on the Continent, which we hope will be approved by you; and we beg leave most heartily to congratulate you on the Prospect of retrieving those valuable Acquisitions lost by the Treaty of Poona, and of restoring such a Government at Poona as will greatly contribute to the general Security of your Possessions in India.

According to the Plan we had concerted, a Detachment of Grenadier Sepoys was sent off the 22d of last Month, under the Command of Captain Stewart, who fortunately secured the Passage of the Ghauts without Opposition on the 25th, and took Post there; the Remainder of the Forces left Bombay the 23d, and took Position of the Fort of Bellapore, which guards the Entrance of Panwell River, where they were joined by Colonel Egerton, who took on him the Chief Command of the Army.

The Force detached on this Service consists of 172 Artillery, 549 European Infantry, and 2689 Sepoys, all Officers included, together with 400 Artillery Lascars; which we trust, all Circumstances considered, will be able to bring the Business to a happy Conclusion.

By our latest Intelligence from the Army, we find them, on the 26th of this Month, at Captain Stewart's Post at Condilah, on the Summit of the Ghauts. They have hitherto met with no Opposition; but we are advised that the Ministers are assembling an Army to oppose their March, when they make their Appearance about the Ghauts.

Ragobah left Bombay a few Days after our Forces, and is now with them, and a small Body of his own Troops, at Condilah. We hear he is already joined by a Party of Horse; and we flatter ourselves, that when he is a little farther advanced, a Number of the principal Maratta Officers will declare in his Favour.

The Management of the Expedition, and the Settlement of the Government at Poona, is entrusted to a Committee, consisting of M^rs. Carnac, Egerton, and Moslyn, who are entrusted to conduct Ragobah to Poona with all possible Expedition, and to place him in the Regency, on the Terms mentioned in the Treaty. They are then instructed to use their utmost Judgment and Address in settling the Government upon a firm and permanent Footing, and effecting the Subversion of the Party in the French Interest, and filling the Offices of Trust with Persons well disposed towards the Honourable Company.

We have the most sanguine Hopes of a happy Issue to this Undertaking, as we have strong Reasons to believe a very general Disposition prevails amongst the Maratta Officers and People in Favour

A P P E N D I X, N° 128, 129.

of Ragobah, and of his Pretensions; and the Fall of Pondicherry must damp the Expectations of Nannah Furneese, of Assistance from the French. The Approach of the Bengal Detachment will also greatly distract the Efforts of that Party, in the same Degree that it will give Encouragement to the Friends of Ragobah; and if the Enterprize should prove more difficult than we expected, we shall be able, with their Assistance, to overcome all Opposition.

A P P E N D I X, N° 129.

Extract of Bombay Select Consultations, September 5th 1778.

SIGNED the following Letter to Sir Edward Vernon.

To Sir Edward Vernon, Knight, Commodore, and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Service in the East Indies.

Sir,

We were extremely concerned to observe by your Letter of the 15th July, that the Necessity did not strike you so forcibly as it did us, of the Squadron's being removed immediately to this Place, which, on the Supposition of a War with the French Nation, is most likely to be the first Object of their Operations in India.

As you have taken the Letter from the Presidency at Madras, as the Ground for your Determination of continuing on the Coast of Coromandel, we think it material to state to you in Reply our Reasons for being of Opinion that the Squadron could render more important Service to the Nation, and to the Company, by making Bombay its present Station; and if they appear to you of sufficient Weight to occasion an Alteration in your Sentiments, we cannot doubt but you will still comply with our former Request.

The most favourable and probable Opportunity for the French to attack Bombay, will be undoubtedly early in the Commencement of a War, before the Arrival of a British Fleet in India, sufficiently powerful to contend with them at Sea, and whilst we have no other Resources for Defence than our own Garrison; such is exactly our present Situation, if the War is commenced, with this further disadvantageous Circumstance, that our Force consists almost wholly of Sepoys, though we have drained every European we possibly could from our subordinate Settlements.

Thus circumstanced, if the French proceed upon a Plan of Surprize, and proportion their Ambition to our Garrison, the Strength of which must be pretty well known to them, the Presence of His Majesty's Squadron under your Command, even in its present Force, might be the Means of preventing an Attack, but it cannot possibly be denied that it would in any Case be greatly instrumental in repelling it; and the Number of Men which could be landed from the Ships would be of the most important Service in the Defence of our Works, and prove the Preservation of the Place, especially when it is considered, as before observed, that our Force in Europeans is very small.

The Governor and Council at Madras are pleased to allow, if we rightly comprehend their Meaning, that it is probable the French will early form a Design upon Bombay, before they proceed to what is conceived to be their main Object in case of War, namely, a powerful Attack upon the Company's Possessions at Madras or Bengal, which they add would be rendered much more difficult and hazardous by proceeding with respect to Bombay upon any other Plan; it therefore certainly follows, that the Safety of this Place, which is of so much Consequence in itself, and so essential to the Security of the Company's other valuable Possessions, should be the First Object of Attention, in Preference we think to the Annoyance of the Enemy's Possessions.

We will allow the Protection your Squadron will afford to the Company's Shipping on the Coast, to be an Argument of much Weight in Support of your Resolution, but still we hope you will think the Safety of this Settlement a superior Consideration.

We hope we shall stand excused for expressing our Apprehensions for the Safety of His Majesty's Squadron if you persist in your present Resolution; for as we are informed by the Secret Committee of the Court of Directors, that the Three Ships of the Line for Madras would not sail before the Beginning of August, we think it very possible, before they can arrive in India, the French may obtain so decided a Superiority by Sea as to make your Continuance on the Coast extremely hazardous, and Bombay the more eligible Situation, where we expect a Ship of 64 Guns, which we are informed by the same Authority was to convoy the Company's Shipping to this Presidency.

We have the Honour to enclose Two Packets, received from England by the Way of Bussora on the 3d of this Month; and are, with Respect,

Bombay Castle,
8th September 1778.

Sir,
Your most obedient Servants,
William Hornby, &c.
Select Committee.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Campoly, 16th December 1778.

[Wednesday]
16th

THIS Day received the following Letter from Colonel Goddard, directed to Mr. Lewis at Poona, and forwarded from thence by Dadajee Advioſee :

William Lewis, Esquire.

Since my last of the 12th Instant, from within Four Cosls of Seronge, I have been favoured with both yours of the 9th October and 1st November, written in Cypher. As the Figures do not in any respect correspond with those of the Cypher transmitted me by the Select Committee, I have not been able to discover the Meaning of your Letters; I must wait therefore for a Key to them, till I receive the Cypher composed by the Honourable the Supreme Board, which I expect in a few Days, and which I am led to believe will answer to the Figure of your Letters.

I have the Pleasure to enclose you a Letter for the Honourable Select Committee, informing them of my Arrival at Bhopal, from which Place I propose marching To-morrow Morning towards the Nerbuddah, and crossing near the Gaus of Hussengabad, distant about 18 Cosls. I have acquainted them with the treacherous Conduct of Ballajee, and the ineffectual Attempts made by him in conjunction with the Troops belonging to the Bilsah Chief, to carry off the Baggage, and cut off the Supplies of Provisions.

They have also used their Endeavours, by Threats and Menaces, to prevail upon the Nawab Mahomet Huat Ghawn to concur in their Views of preventing our Passage across the Nerbuddah, which they affirm to be in Obedience to the Orders of the Peshwa Purdhan Maderow.

Hitherto I have experienced the most friendly Behaviour from the Nawab, and if he adheres to his Engagements of supplying me with Grain, &c. I shall have every Reason to be satisfied with his Conduct. I shall write you again soon; and remain,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servant,

Tho' Goddard.

Nov. 26th, 1778,
Camp at Bhopal.

Receive I also at the same Time a Letter from Dadaja Adowja at Poona, to Captain Stewart, dated the 15th Instant; in which he mentions the Receipt of Two Letters from Colonel Goddard, One for Mr. Carnac and One for Mr. Lewis, both which he then forwarded. That by the Reports at Poona, Scindia and Holcar had taken an Oath to act with the Ministers; Nanah having further prevailed upon Scindia, by a Present of Three Lacks, that Mhadjee Scindia was first to go against the English Troops, and if he was worsted, Holcar was to aid him; that on the 11th Instant Nanah had dispatched Bhimrow Ponsia, and Rarichund Gunneis, with some Guns, to Fullegaoon: That the Ministers were desirous to try their Success in an Engagement with us; and if they were defeated, it was then to be left to Saccaram to make the best Peace he could with us: That Nanah Furnecé was for dispatching Troops through the different Gaus into the Conkan. For the Information of the Committee, Mr. Lewis delivered different Letters received by him since his Departure from Poona; One from Colonel Goddard, dated Camp near Rimlasy, October 31st 1778, received at Bombay 1st December 1778.

To W^m Lewis, Esquire, Resident at Poona.

Sir,

Inclosed I have the Pleasure to transmit you a Letter for the Honourable the Governor and Select Committee at Bombay, which I request you will forward to them with all Expedition. Nothing very material has occurred since my last of the 4th Instant, which I hope has arrived safe; it contained Accounts of the Death of Colonel Leslie, and of my Intention to proceed on my March from Raje Chur, which I did on the 8th in the Morning; and am now near Rimlasy, a Town belonging to Ballajee, about 12 Cosls from Gunge Berondah, which you will find laid down in Mr. Smith's Route about the same Distance from Bilrah, by which Road I mean to march.

A Vaceel, named Ragoo Ram, Yesterday waited upon me from the Poona Durbar, with a Letter in the Name of the young reigning Peshwa Pencit Purdhan Mhadoo Row; which, after mentioning the Friendship existing between himself and the English, and expressing a Surprise at the Hostilities committed at Kalpy, requests to be informed of my Intentions in marching through the Maratta Empire. In Reply to this I have told him, that in Obedience to the Orders of my Masters I am marching from one English Settlement to another; and that my Wish and Object is to preserve Peace and Amity with every State and Chief I may meet with on my Route. I have explained to him the Conduct of Gungahder at Kalpy, which drew upon him the English Arms, and of that Fourier

REP. VI.

(A)

having

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

having been again restored to him, as a Proof of our friendly and pacific Views. I conceive the Embassie must have been sent unknown to you from Poona, having before received no Intimation of it; and I learn the Vaceel left Poona near Two Months ago. This however must have been much about the Time of your last Letter, which is dated September 2d. I hope soon to hear from you, and beg you will communicate to me any Circumstance you can relative to the Poona Durbar, by which my Operations may be possibly effected.

Camp near Rimlassy,
October 31st, 1778.

I am,

Sir,

Your obedient humble Servant,
Tho' Goddard,

Different Letters from Dadajee Adowjee, dated 27th and 29th November, and 2d December 1778.

At about Noon Mr. Sibbald returned with a Message from Dada Saheb to Mr. Carnac, thanking him for his friendly Caution; that he thought he had nothing to apprehend from Ragojee Adowjee, who had presented him with an Elephant and 25 Horses; that he should advance, and encamp within a Mile of us.

At a Committee; P R E S E N T,

John Carnac, Esquire,

Colonel Charles Egerton.

Mr. Mostyn ind sposef,

Read, and approved, the Minutes of the last Committee.

Colonel Charles Egerton now delivers in to the Committee the following Minute:

" The Commission granted to the Committee appointed to attend Ragob to Poona, bearing Decr. Bombay Castle, December 5th, 1778, being in my Opinion highly contradictory to a Paragraph in the Instructions accompanying the said Commission, and repugnant to the military Powers vested in me as Commander of the Forces of the Presidency of Bombay, and now in the Field, I do most strenuously protest against publishing the same at present in General Orders.

" I do also protest against this Commission resting military Authority, and also to the Mode in which it was granted; together with many Articles of the Instructions appertaining to the said Commission, for such Reasons as I shall hereafter exhibit at a more reasonable Opportunity."

For the foregoing Reasons the Colonel is of Opinion, that the Commission should not at present be published in General Orders to the Army; and farther, that according to the Letter of the Commission appointing the Committee, he holds any Meeting incomplete and informal without the Presence of every Member, and therefore the Order issued to him in consequence of the Resolution passed at the last Meeting of Mr. Carnac and himself, was in his Opinion of no Validity, till he shall have received further Instructions from his Superiors at Bombay, or till the Recovery of Mr. Mostyn permits him to attend in Committee.

Mr. Carnac is of Opinion, that the Sickness of one of the Members of the Committee preventing him to attend, does by no Means render the Proceedings of the other invalid. According to the general Rules of the Company's Service, a Majority of any Board can form a legal Meeting of themselves; that therefore the Colonel was bound to have obeyed the Requisition sent to him in consequence of the Resolution passed at this last Meeting; however, being unwilling to enter into any Discussion of the Subject, he consents to refer the Matter to the Judgment of our Superiors at Bombay, and therefore proposes that the Minutes of the last Committee, relative to the publishing the Commission, together with the Minutes now made, should be instantly forwarded, with an Address to our Superiors, requesting their instant Decision on these several Points, as, according to the Opinion entertained by the Colonel, it seems to him (Mr. Carnac) of no Utility to meet again in Committee; and that of course the Business committed in Charge to them must remain at a Stand till such Decision be given, till the Recovery of Mr. Mostyn, which he is sorry to observe, by the Accounts of the Surgeon, is very doubtful, and at best not likely to be for some Days.

The Colonel concurs in Opinion with Mr. Carnac, relative to the transmitting, with an Indictive Address to our Superiors, the Minutes he makes mention of; but differs in Opinion with him as to his general Conclusion; for though he (Col. Egerton) thinks fit to insist that the Point which immediately relates to himself, viz. the Publication in General Orders of the Commission to the Army under his Command, should be discussed in a full Committee, yet he is far from thinking that this Proposal can give any Impediment to the Conduct of Affairs committed in Charge to the Committee, as Mr. Carnac and himself can meet, deliberate, conduct, and give final Answers to Kagoba relative to those Affairs.

Mr. Carnac observing that from the Accounts of the Surgeons there is great room to apprehend Mr. Mostyn may not recover, thinks it requisite to observe to our Superiors the very great Loss the Company

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

Company will sustain at this critical Juncture by his Death, and how much it may probably impede the Execution of the material Points they have in Charge, both from the Want of local Knowledge, and particular Ability and Acquaintance Mr. Mostyn possesses in Maratta Affairs; and because that most of the Engagements formed at Poona were immediately formed with him; and that the Persons treated with, looking immediately to him, may now be backward in making fresh Overtures to the Committee. To which the Colonel concurs.

Mr. Stubbald now lays before the Committee a Paper, as entered hereafter, containing Intelligence transmitted from Ragoba, with which he was made acquainted by Naroo Gopal and Trimbuck Ballerow. With respect to his Proposal of having a Body of Men from Bombay, we are sensible that from the State of the Garrison it is impossible to accede to it.

Mr. Carnac lays before the Committee the following Minute:

" As the speedy Arrival of the Army upon the Ghauts, and their being pushed forwards as quickly as possible, is very essential to the easier Accomplishment of the Service on which the Army is now employed, the Enemy having thereby so much the less Time to prepare and collect themselves; and our Troops have been hitherto but very slow in their Progress, they having disembarked at Panwell 25 Days ago, and yet are little more than the same Number of Miles distant from it, it is much to be regretted that a more expeditious Mode had not been found out for conveying to the Top of the Ghauts the Ordnance Stores and Baggage, than the one at present pursued. It appears to Mr. Carnac, that much Labour, Time, and a considerable Expence, are unnecessarily wasted in the making of Carriage Road up the Gaut; and that with the same Number of People now employed for this Purpose, every Thing intended to be casted up might have been carried up by Hand with more Ease, Security from Accident, and Dispatch; and from the Conversation he has had with many on the Subject, he is inclined to believe this to be the general Opinion. The Commander of Artillery has actually passed some of his Guns beyond the Road constructed by Major Snaith, and by a Route wide of it, which may be adduced as a Testimony that this Part of the new-made Road at least was wholly needless."

As an Answer to Mr. Carnac's Minute might be productive of Altercation and Argument, the Colonel defers saying any Thing on the Subject till he has an Opportunity of having his Conduct properly scrutinized by his Superiors at Bombay.

(Adjourned.)

John Carnac,
Chas Egerton,

Campoly, 20th December, 1778.

Sunday, 20th

This Morning Ragoba sent Naroo Gopal and Trimbuck Ballerow to Mr. Carnac, to inform him of the following Intelligence he had just received from the Enemy's Camp:

That the Ministerial Forces, under the Command of Bhim Row Ponsia, Badjee Punt Joscy, and Guneish Punt, consisting of 10,000 Horse, 15 Pieces of Cannon, and a large Number of Bhondasars, were encamped at Wurgaon, 3 Coss on this Side Tullagaong, in order to harass our Troops and obstruct their March, so soon as they might make their Appearance above the Ghauts; and that a Body of 5,000 Horse were ordered to proceed down Kurkora Gaut, with an Intent to cut off our Communication with Panwell.

That Nanah Furneeze, Saccaram Bapoo, Madjee Scindia, and Tookajee Holcar, were encamped near Poona with 5,000 Horse; but whether they meant to join the main Body at Wurgaon, was not yet known.

Ragoba desired the above Persons to acquaint Mr. Carnac, that he submitted it to his Consideration, Whether it would not be advisable to have a Detachment of Sepoys, with 2 Guns, sent from Bombay, to be kept below the Gaus, in order to protect our Convoys of Provisions, and to keep the Communication open with Panwell?

Ragoba is confident that the Ministerial Party have adopted the above Plan, as they make no Scruple to declare that it is the only likely Mode of harassing and distressing the English Troops; being unequal to an actual Engagement with such a Body of Forces as we have now in the Field.

Dispatched the following Address to the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay.

Monday, 21st

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee at Bombay.

Gentlemen,

On the 15th Instant Messieurs Carnac and Mostyn arrived at thi Place, and on the Evening of that Day, Mr. Carnac directed the Secretary to the Committee to desire the Attendance of Colonel Egerton and Mr. Mostyn at his (Mr. Carnac's) Tent on the following Day, in order to open a Packet you, directed to Mr. Carnac, Colonel Egerton, and Mr. Mostyn. The latter Gentleman being disposed, the Meeting was held by Mr. Carnac and Colonel Egerton only.

Mr

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Mr. Mostyn being ill indisposed, those Two Gentlemen only again met this Day, conformable to your Summons sent by Mr. Carnac, when it was agreed immediately to transmit the Whole or both of the Proceedings for your Consideration. From the Nature of the Doubts and Questions that have arisen, you will no Doubt perceive the Necessity of favouring us with your Decisions as speedily and explicitly as possible, as, from the Nature of the Service, and the Accidents common to all Men, may frequently happen that only Two of the Members can attend in Committee.

The Particulars of the Intelligence received from Ragoba are, That the Ministerial Forces, under the Command of Bhim Row Ponsia, Badjee Punt Josy, and Gunnis Punt, consisting of 15 Horse, 15 Pieces of Cannon, and a Large Number of Bhondhaars, were encamped at Wurgoan, on this Side Tullagaon, in order to harass our Troops, and obstruct their March to Poona; they might make their Appearance above the Gaut; and that a Body of 5,000 Horse were ordered to proceed down Kurfora Gaut, with an Intent to cut off our Communication with Panwell. Nanah Furneeze, Saceiram Bappoo, Mhadjee Scindia, and Harry Punt, were encamped at Poona with about 5,000 Horse; but whether they meant to join the main Body at Wurgoan, is not yet known.

Ragoba says he is confident the ministerial Party have adopted the above Plan, as they have no Scruple to declare, that it is the only likely Method of harassing and distressing the English, by being unequal to an actual Engagement with such a Body of Forces as we have now in the Field. He therefore directed the Persons whom he sent with this Intelligence to acquaint the Committee, he submitted it to their Consideration, Whether it would not be advisable to have a Detachment of Sepoys sent with Two Guns from Bombay, to be kept below the Gaut, in order to protect our Voyages of Provisions, and to keep the Communication open with Panwell?

The above Intelligence from Ragoba generally corresponds with the Contents of a Letter from Dadajee Adowjee, at Poona, except that he mentions the Ministerialists were determined to engage us, and that Holkar had engaged to assist them; which latter Circumstance we hope will prove untrue. If the Ministerialists mean to act with Vigour, it seems to us probable they will adopt the Plan mentioned by Ragoba.

For these Two Days past, Ragonath Row has been encamped close to us: He had determined to have proceeded up the Cocinda Gaut, and had absolutely marched for that Purpose; but, for the Consequences of his being widely separated from us, and from the whole Tenor of his Conduct lately, having Reason to apprehend that treacherous Designs were formed relative to the Safety of his Person, Mr. Sibbald was deputed by Mr. Carnac to represent to him the Apprehensions entertained, and the unnecessary Risque he at best exposed himself to, by proceeding up another River whilst we had one open, and guarded by our own Troops. He paid due Attention to these Representations; and this Night, at Midnight, being a lucky Hour, he has determined to march up the Gaut to Condolah.

We are, with Respect,
Gentlemen,

Camp at Campoly,
20th December 1778.

Your most obedient Servants,
J^r Carnac,
C. W. Egerton

P. S. Last Night Ragonath Row proceeded up the Gaut.
December 21, 1778.

At about 3 P. M. received the following Letter from the honourable the Select Committee of Bombay:

To John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Mostyn, Esquire.

Gentlemen,

We have received a Letter from Messrs. Carnac and Mostyn, dated the 15th Instant, and desire you to open any Packets addressed to us, which may come to your Hands.

Having just received a Letter of Importance from the Governor General and Council, we desire you to forward an Extract of all the material Parts for your Information; and we have in consequence sent Orders to Colonel Goddard to move forward with all possible Expedition, although we doubt not he will be ready have prosecuted his March, in consequence of our former Orders.

Our latest Advices from Colonel Goddard are dated the 26th ultimo, from Bhopal, where he has 18 Coss of the Nerbuddah, which he hoped to cross in Five or Six Days at Huisengabad, and in 10 Days more enter the Country of the Berar Rajah.

We hope soon to hear of your having ascended the Gants, with the Army and Stores; and strongly recommend to you to proceed with all possible Expedition, and to urge Ragoba, so as that no Delay may arise on his Part.

You will correspond with Colonel Goddard on all necessary Points, and we have directed him to send you Advice of his Motions. A Packet is now inclosed for him in Duplicate, which is to be forwarded

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

for your Perusal; and you will forward it by separate Conveyances, in the most secure and expedition Manner.

We now return Five Pages of Pattamars, arrived from the Army with Advices; and are,
Gentlemen,

Bombay Castle,
19th December 1778.

Your most obedient humble Servants,

W^m Hornby,
Dan^t Draper.

Signed by the Secretary, for and by Order of the
Governor, who is unable to hold a Pen.

Edward Ravenscroft, Secretary.

Extract of a Letter from the Governor General and Council; dated the 15th October 1778, and received the 18th December following, per Terrible.

We advised you in our last of the Appointment of Mr. Elliot to the Court of Moodajee Buncello, the Rajah of Berar, with Instructions to negotiate and conclude a Treaty of Alliance with that Chief; but we are sorry to inform you of the Demise of Mr. Elliot, in his Way to Naguipore, at a Place called Sarungur. The Rajah having expressed great Satisfaction at the Overtures which we made for a Connection with him by this Deputation, and being, as we have every Reason to believe, firm in his Attachment to the English, we conclude, as soon as he hears of the unfortunate Event of Mr. Elliot's Death, that he will take an active Part in prosecuting the intended Negotiation, either by deputing a proper Minister to us on his Part, or by soliciting our Alliance on such Terms as may prove a general Advantage to the Company's Possessions. For these Reasons, we do not mean to appoint any one to succeed Mr. Elliot, until our Advices from the Rajah shall enable us to determine on the Expediency of that Measure.

We have thought it incumbent on us to remove Colonel Leslie from the Command of the Detachment of Forces which was ordered to march for the Support and Assistance of your Presidency, on Account of the little Progress it had made under him; as we understand he was advanced no further than Rajgur on the 25th ultmo, and of his manifest Disobedience also of our positive Orders, in forming and concluding a Treaty of perpetual Peace and Friendship, in the Name of the Company, with the Rajahs Gomaun and Comau Sing, Chiefs of a Part of the Bundelcund District.

Colonel Thomas Goddard is now appointed to the chief Command of these Troops, and we have ordered him to prosecute his March, without further Loss of Time, into Berar, where on his Arrival he will apply to Moodajee Buncello; and if that Chief shall agree to join him with a sufficient Body of Forces for the Purpose, he is to continue his Route in Conjunction with them; but if he shall not have received any fresh Directions for his March, or if the Rajah shall decline or refuse to grant him his Assistance, we have then vested in him a discretionary Power to suspend his Proceedings.

If the Plan which you had resolved to adopt and to carry into Execution in September, for the Restoration of Ragoba, and which you notified to us in your Letter of the 25th July, still subsist; or if you shall have formed any other for the same End, consistently with the Terms prescribed for our Assent to that Measure; or if you shall judge a strong Reinforcement immediately and indispensably necessary to ensure the Safety of Bombay against a French Invasion, and shall deem it requisite or advisable in either of these Cases, to command the Detachment at all Hazards to proceed further towards Bombay, even without the Junction of the Troops of any Power in Alliance with us; you will in such Cases, and such only, require Colonel Goddard to advance with it; but in all other Cases you will give him Notice of your Intentions, and leave him to act under our Directions.

A true Extract.

Edward Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the Select Committee.

To Colonel Goddard.

Sir,

The Governor General and Council have advised us of their Resolution to have removed Colonel Leslie, before they heard of his Death, and of their having appointed you to the chief Command of the Detachment of Forces ordered for the Support of this Presidency. They have also apprized us of the Orders they have given for your Conduct on your Arrival in the Berar Country. We congratulate you on this Mark of Distinction conferred on you by the Governor General and Council; and though we hope this will meet you well advanced on your March, in consequence of our Letters of the 15th November and 6th instant; yet to prevent all Disappointment, and that you may not be at any Loss in your Proceedings, we judge it proper to repeat to you, that our Forces have actually taken the Field, in Prosecution of the Plan communicated to the Governor General and Council, for the Restoration of Ragoba, and that we deem it requisite and advisable that the Army under your Command should move forwards towards Bombay. We therefore hereby require you to advance according

R. VI.

(B)

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

according to our former Orders, even without the Juncture of the Troops of any Power in Asia, with the Honourable Company; and we likewise desire and enjoin you to conduct your March in all due and Expedition.

The Settlement of the Government at Poona is committed to Messrs. Carnac, Egerton, & Molyn, with whom we desire you will correspond; and we flatter ourselves, the Movement of our Forces will facilitate your March in like Manner as we expect the Advance of your Detachments to harass the Opposition to our Forces.

We Yesterday received your Letter, dated at Bhosall the 26th ultimo, and we now send a full Copy of our Letter of the 6th Instant.

We are,

Sir,
Your obedient humble Servants,
W^m Hornby,
D. Draper,

Bombay Castle,
19th Dec. 1778.

Signed by the Secretary, for and by Order of the
Governor, who is unable to hold a Pen.
Edw^r Ravenscroft, Secretary.

Tuesday, 23d.

This Morning Thomas Molyn being dangerously ill, set off for Bombay.

It is worthy Observation, that by the Accounts taken this Day, either in or after the Attack of on Captain Stewart's Post at Condolah, it appears that the Body of Men which made this sudden flight went to Corindah Gaut, where they were purposely dispatched to seize the Person of Rānāth Row, whose Intentions to proceed up that Gaut his Enemies at Poona had been well adviced.

Wednesday, 24th.

The Army proceeded up the Gaut to Condolah. In the Evening received a Letter from Dājee Adaujee at Poona, to Mr. Lewis, informing him that he had learnt from Miaderow Jadooy, Nana Furneeze would not permit of his (Adaujee's) remaining in Poona; requesting to know what was to be done with the Company's Effects at Poona, the Removal of which would cost very dear. Account of the People having mostly deserted Poona. It was said Nanah expected some Troops from Goa, French and Portuguese, who were to set out this Day from Cudkey; that our fact, was given to the French Gentleman who before lived in Curril Row BulloP's Stable.

Friday, 25th.

At 3 P.M. received the following Letter from the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay.

John Carnac, Esquire, Colonel Charles Egerton, and Thomas Molyn, Esquire.

Gentlemen,

We have received the Letters from Messrs. Carnac and Egerton, dated the 20th Instant.

We are sorry to observe, that any Occasion of Difference has already arisen, and at the same time surprized to find an Idea could be entertained, that the Powers of the Committee were suspended by the Sicknes or accidental Absence of one of the Members, when it is so obvious, that the Practice in all Communities or Bodies of Men associated in any public Service, is direct and universally the Reverse. But since such an Opinion has prevailed, we find it necessary to state and lay it down as our positive Order, that whenever any one of the Members of the Poona Committee is by Sicknes, or any other accidental Cause, unavoidably absent the full Exercise of the Powers granted to the Committee, shall be vested and continue in the remaining Members, and in case of a Difference of Opinion, the Senior Member must, as always usual, have a Casting Voice.

To prevent any further Dissatisfaction, we could wish that the Point of publishing the Committee's Commission, was waived.

We are, Gentlemen,
your most obedient humble Servants,
W^m Hornby,
Dan^r Draper,

Signed by the Secretary, for and by Order of the
Governor, who is unable to hold a Pen.

Edw^r Ravenscroft, Secy.

Received

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Received the following Letter from Colonel Goddard to the Select Committee at Bombay, at 10 A. M. in Original and Duplicate.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Members of the Select Committee, Bombay.

Gentlemen,

I wrote you the 26th from Bhopall, since which Time I have crossed the Nerbuddah, at Hursongabad, and am encamped on the South Bank of it.

Not having been favoured with any Letter from you of a later Date than the 21st July, I am in daily Hopes of receiving one, informing me of many Circumstances highly necessary at this Time to determine the Measures proper to be pursued, and the Plan of my future Operations.

It appears from every Intelligence I can obtain, that the Peishwa and his Ministers have taken the Alarm, and are assembling Troops in every Quarter to oppose my March, conceiving, that the Intention of it is to assist your Government in advancing the Pretensions of Ragoba. It becomes therefore expedient that some vigorous Steps be immediately taken to counteract their Designs and cause a Diversion from different Quarters, in order to prevent their assembling their whole Force, which I am apt to believe will be strengthened by that of the Nizam, against me.

I learn that Hyder Ally is in the Field with a large Army; and how far his Views might concur or his Motions be made to co-operate with ours, you must be best able to determine. I am persuaded that every necessary Precaution will have been used by you; but then not being communicated to me deprives me in a great Measure of the Opportunity a Knowledge of them would furnish for regulating my future Operations.

I shall have a few Days in this Place in determining the Route, which I expect will be by Burhampore, and in the intervening Time I hope to be able to prevail on Moodjee Bouneollo, the Rajah of Berar, to join me with a Body of Troops, by which Means the Inconveniences I might otherwise experience respecting the Supplies of Provisions may be obviated.

I hope also to be favoured with Letters from you during my Stay here, and as soon as I have fixed upon any Route from this Place, I will send off a Dispatch informing you of it.

I think it proper to acquaint you, that Two Letters received within this Month from Mr. Lewis at Poona, being written in Cypher different from the one you sent me through Mr. Boddam, I have not been able to understand their Contents.

I have the Honour to be, with the greatest Respect,
Gentlemen,

Camp, near Hursongabad,
on the South Side of the Nerbuddah,

December 6th 1778.

Your most obedient
humble Servant,
Tho^d Goddard.

Received at the same Time, a Letter from Dadajee Adowjee at Poona, dated the 23d Instant mentioning, that he now finds Letters received from Colonel Goddard's Army; that 5 Days before he had sent 2 Madras Packets with 4 Pr^t of Pattamars; that Mhadoo Row Jadoofey acquainted him Nanth Furnecze would not suffer any English Vackel there, or have any thing to do with the English; that the Agent to the Nabob of Tall Boppal informed him he had asked Holkar whether he meant to observe his Word passed to Mr. Mostyn? who said, he should till Death.

On Wednesday last the Troops marched from Condolah to Mount Snarl; on Thursday, from Mount Snarl to Dungergaon Plain; on Monday, from Dungergaon Plain to Corla, where Captain Stewart was unfortunately killed by a Cannon Shot; proceeded from Corla on the Wednesday following to Mondhurna Plain.

Mondhurna Plain, 6th January 1779

At a Committee; P R E S E N T,

John Carnac, Esquire,
Colonel Charles Egerton.

Colonel Egerton now represents to the Committee, that having borne up as long as he could against an Illness with which he has now for some Time past been afflicted, he at length finds himself under the disagreeable Necessity of acquainting the Committee, that the Surgeon Major is of Opinion, that the Fatigues of a Campaign co-operating with his Indisposition certainly endangers his Life, and that at any rate he cannot hope to have the requisite Strength to attend properly to the many Avocations of the Commander in Chief; for these Reasons he requests Permission to resign

A P P E N D I X, N° 150.

resign the Command to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, and proceed immediately to Bombay, which is agreed to.

The Committee taking into Consideration the Necessity of having an able and experienced Officer to command the Army now in the Field in case of Accidents to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, think proper to recommend it to the Commander in Chief, to appoint Major Dagon of the Artillery, to act as Lieutenant Colonel till the Pleasure of the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay shall be known; and that it shall further be recommended to our Superiors, to continue the Appointment.

The Departure of Colonel Egerton, the unfortunate Loss of Lieutenant Colonel Cay, and Captain James Stewart, the First wounded and returned to Bombay, and the latter killed, and the Prospect there is that the present Service may be much more severe, and of much longer Continuance than was expected, render it very expedient that the Army should be supplied with as many Officers of Experience as can be spared from Bombay; and it is therefore resolved to recommend it to the Honourable the Select Committee, to send up Major Hopkins, Captains Baines and Jamieson, to join the Army as soon as possibly can be done with Safety to them.

We reflect with some Concern, on the Difference between the Expectations we were flattered with on our Arrival at the Top of the Gauts, and the actual State of Affairs. We were given to hope, that immediately on the Appearance there of the Standard of Ragonath Row, Holcar and many other Chiefs of Rank and Respect would join him with a numerous Body of Horse; and there was every Reason to hope we might have terminated speedily the Object of our Commission. Instead of these reputable Partizans, none but a few Mercenaries have yet joined us; and Ragonath Row, in a Message Yesterday by Mr. Sibbald, gave us plainly to understand he had been deceived; that unless we could convince his Friends of their Safety in joining us by the speedy Death of his Enemies, he had no Hope of being joined by any one; and that our Situation would then prove worse than better as we advanced towards Poona, by being cut off from all Communication with the Conkan, from whence we may now be supplied with Provisions and Stores. The Mode adopted by the Enemy, of retreating before us, and ravaging the Country, seems to render the Reasoning apparently just; but we still hope as we advance towards Poona, Holcar, on whose Junction there may be some Dependance, will be enabled and encouraged to keep firm to the Promises he has given us through the late Mr. Mostyn. It is further observable, there is too much Reason to apprehend that Ragonath Row, trusting to subdue every one by our Arms, has only neglected the fit Means to conciliate the respectable Chiefs to his Cause, but has acted in such a Manner as will naturally tend to unite them against him. The Grounds of this Suspicion are these. The Agent of Moraba in our Camp, informed Mr. Lewis, that he had learnt from his Master that Ragoba, instead of taking the proper Means for his Release from Ahmednagur, had sent Directions to the Killeadar not to release Morabah till he got positive Orders from him on his Arrival at Poona. This is in direct Violation of his Agreements with us, and could the fact be clearly proved, it would have been so signified to him.

Resolved, That we do immediately acquaint our Superiors at Bombay with the foregoing, for they may send requisite Orders, in case it should appear that the Extent of our Military Operations in the Cause of Ragoba may be very indefinite and uncertain: At any rate assure them, that at the present we see no Prospect of their terminating on our Arrival at Poona, which, by their Instructions to us, they seem most confidently to expect.

By the Death of Mr. Mostyn and the Departure of Colonel Egerton, the Powers of this Committee may seem suspended for the present: It is however recommended to Mr. Carnac to continue still to act when it may be requisite, till explicit Orders may arrive from our Superiors at Bombay. Adjourned.

John Carnac,
Charles Egerton.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee, Bombay.

Gentlemen,

On the 25th ultimo we received your Commands of the 24th.

We are sorry to acquaint you, that this Day Colonel Charles Egerton represented to us in Committee, That having borne up as long as he could against an Illness with which he has been for some Time past afflicted, he at length found himself under the Necessity of acquainting the Committee, that the Surgeon Major is of Opinion that the Fatigues of a Campaign co-operating with his Indisposition, would certainly endanger his Life; and that at any rate he cannot soon hope to have the requisite Strength to attend properly to the many Avocations of the Commander in Chief in the Field; for which Reasons he requested Permission to resign the Command of the Army to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, and proceed immediately to Bombay; which being complied with, is now accordingly proceeds.

Taking into Consideration the Necessity of having an able and experienced Officer to command the Army now in the Field in case of Accidents to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, we thought it advisable to recommend it to the Commander in Chief to appoint Major Gaspar Dagon, of the Artillery,

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Army, to act as Lieutenant Colonel till your Pleasure shall be known; and having by this Means secured, as far as in us lies, a fit Commander on the Event above stated, we hope for your Approval on this Occasion, and that you will be pleased to direct this Appointment to be continued.

The Return of Colonel Egerton, the unfortunate Loss of Lieutenant Colonel Cay and Captain Sturtevant, the former wounded and returned to Bombay, and the latter killed, together with the Report of the General that the present Service may be much more severe and of longer Duration than was at first suspected, render it very expedient that the Army should be supplied with as many Officers of Experience as can be spared from Bombay, having first had Reference to the Opinion of the Commander in Chief, we therefore take the Liberty to recommend, that you will be pleased immediately to direct Major Hopkins, Captain Eames, and Captain Jameson, to proceed to Bhore Gant, in order to join the Army, in case it shall appear to them practicable with any Degree of Safety; regarding which they will be furnished with such Information as we can send to them, and proper Guides sent to meet them at the Gant.

It is with some Concern we must now acquaint you with the Difference between the Expectations we were flattered with on our Arrival at the Top of the Gants, and the actual State of Affairs. We were given to hope, that immediately on the Appearance there of the Standard of Ragonath Row, Holoar and many other Chiefs of Rank and Respect were to join him with a numerous Body of Heirs. With these, in case of Resistance from his Adversaries, we might at least have been able to have secured Provisions and Forage from this Country; and there was every Reason to hope that we might speedily have terminated the Object of our Commission. Instead of these reputable Partizans none but a few Mercenaries have yet joined us; and Ragonath Row Yesterday, in a Message by Mr. Sibbald, gave us plainly to understand he had been deceived; that unless we could convince his Friends of their Safety in joining us, by the speedy Defeat of his Enemies, he had no Hope of being joined by any one; and that our Situation would rather prove worse than better as we advanced towards Poona, by being cut off from all Communication from the Conkan, from whence we may now be supplied with Provisions and Stores. The Mode adopted by the Enemy of retiring before us, and ravaging the Country, seems to render his Reasoning apparently just; but we still hope, as we advance towards Poona, Holoar, on whose Junction there may perhaps be some Dependance, will be encouraged to keep faith to the Promises he made us through the late Mr. Moflyn. We must however oblige to you, there is but too much Reason to apprehend that Ragonath Row, trusting to subdue every one by our Arms, has not only neglected the first Measures to conciliate the respectable Chiefs to his Cause, but has acted in such a Manner as will naturally tend to unite them against him. The Grounds of this Suspicion are these: The Agent of Moraba Furneeze in our Camp, informed Mr. Lewis, that he had learnt from his Master that Ragoba, instead of taking the proper Measures for his Release from Ahmednagur, had secretly sent Directions to the Killedar not to release him till he got further positive Orders from him on his Arrival at Poona. This is in direct Violation of his Engagements with us; and could the Fact be clearly proved, it would have been so significant to him. We have thought it necessary to be thus explicit as to our Situation, that you may reflect on the necessary Measures to be pursued, and send explicit Orders, in case it shall hereafter appear to you that the Field and Extent of our military Operations in the Cause of Ragoba may be very indefinite and uncertain; and we are sorry to assure you, that at present we see no Prospect of their terminating on our Arrival at Poona, which, from your Instructions to us, you seem most confidently to have expected.

By the Death of Mr. Moflyn and the Departure of Colonel Egerton, the Powers of this Committee may seem suspended: It has however been recommended to Mr. Carnac to act as Occasions may require in the several Points entrusted to us, till explicit Orders may arrive from you, which Mr. Carnac requests may be as speedily as possible.

The Army marched this Morning from the Village of Kosla. During the March, the Guns of the Enemy opened on our Line from the Wood of Mondhurna in our Front; and a large Party of Horie seemed inclined either to take us in Flank, or to enter in our Rear among the Baggage. They were however prevented from both, driven from the Wood of Mondhurna into the Plain below. Our Army still advancing, drove them from a Height near the Ridgeway, which we now possess. This Party sent to harass us, we are informed is commanded by Bhim Row Ponsia, and may consist of about 5000 Horie and Seven Guns. We have the Pleasure to inform you, that both Officers and Men behaved on this, and all Occasions, with the greatest Chearfulness and Intrepidity.

We are, with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servants,

Jn^o Carnac,
Ch. Egerton.

Camp, near the
Ridgeway, 6th January

1779.

P. S. After writing the above, Colonel Egerton, who had set off for Bombay, was obliged to return, on the Receipt of certain Intelligence from the Officer at the Pass at Condolah, that a large Party of Horie were in the Conkan, some of which he could perceive at Campoly. On this Account Colonel Egerton is compelled to proceed for some Time with the Army; his Return however makes no change in the Purport of the foregoing with regard to the Command of the Army, which still remains with Colonel Cockburn.

R. p. VI.

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Tullegaon

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Tullegaon, 9th January 1779.

Saturday, 9th. The Army on Thursday last moved from Mondhurna Plain to Carculla; on Friday, from Carculla, to Wurgaon; and on Saturday, from Wurgaon to Tullegaon.

At a Committee; PRESENT,
John Carnac, Esquire,
Colonel Charles Egerton.

Read, and approved, the Minutes of our last Committee.

The Apprehensions expressed in the Minutes of our last Meeting seem verified now beyond Doubt. So far from any Person of Consequence having yet joined Ragoba, Holkar, the only one from whom there appeared the least Assurance of support to his Cause, is now in Arms against us, and joined with Scindia and other Chiefs, whose Guns have been firing on our Camp, and who are now before us with a large Army. The Burning of the large and populous Town of Tullegaon confirms our Suspicion, and the general Information we daily receive from all Sides, of their intended Mode of Procedure, viz. by the Destruction of the Country, by harrassing us, and cutting us off from all Supplies of Provisions. In short, there appears to be a general Determination to oppose the Establishment of Ragoba with that Degree of Authority, which from his confident Assurances of effectual Support, and from the Representations of the late Mr. Molstyn, the Honourable the Select Committee have been led to engage for.

This Disappointment in our Expectations opens to us a Scene very widely different from that we had in View at our first setting out from Bombay. From the open Divisions amongst the Brahmins, and from positive Engagements with the Party in Opposition to Nanah Furneeze, we were given most confidently to expect immediate and effectual Aid, if we once openly and declaredly entered on Measures for the Subversion of his Government, a general reputed Indisposition to that Government amongst the Maratta Officers and People also afforded good Grounds of Expectation for effectual Aid: The Words of our Instructions warrant these Suppositions: From all which it was concluded that the March to Poona would be attended with little Difficulty or Opposition; that little Time would be employed in Military Operations; and that our great Difficulty would not be in reducing the Maratta Officers to Obedience, and placing the Government of the Country under Ragoba, but in settling the different Pretensions of these Chiefs, and bringing Ragoba to form his Government from Men on whom he might depend for effecting the great Object of the Expedition, namely, the entire Subversion of the Party in the French Interest. After having thus conducted him to Poona and settled his Government, there remained only to receive the Sunnuds or Grants that were to form the Rewards of our Aid, and the monthly Stipend for the Expenses of our Army. It seems never to have been doubted that all this would have been effected, and the Army returned to Bombay Time enough for its Defence.

Instead of this definite and limited Scheme, it appears to us that we are engaged in an indefinite Scene of Military Operations, without any Resources but our own, against the most respectable Chiefs of the Maratta Empire, and against an Enemy with whom we cannot hope to bring Men to the only Issue from which we can obtain reasonable Assurance of Success; viz. the Trial of Arms. We must repeat that we are confirmed by the Destruction of Tullagaon, as to their intended Mode of Procedure, a Mode which must infallibly force us back in a short Time to Bombay without reaping the least Benefit in any one Point, both from the great Exertions and Expence of the Governor General and the Government of Bombay. It is requisite here also to observe, that from every Information we can obtain from Deserters, Prisoners, and others, it is determined to burn Chemswar, a Town still more large and populous than Tullagaon, and that Measures are also taken even for the Destruction of Poona, so bent are those now in Opposition to Ragonath Rao to avail themselves of every possible Means in their Power, in order to frustrate the Plan we are now proceeding on in Conjunction with him,

From all these Circumstances it appears to us, that the Plan of establishing Ragonath Rao even but in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, without the immediate Co-operation of a respectable Party in that State, is impracticable, with any Probability of Success; and having decided this Point in our own Minds, the present State of our Army with respect to Provisions, and the total Improbability of a Supply, render it necessary to turn our Attention immediately towards the Means of compassing, as well as in us lies, the main Object which led towards our Engagements with Ragoba, the Defeat of the Designs of the French.

From every Experience we have had of the Marattas, and particularly in this Business, it appears clear to us, that the Tie of their own Interest is the only one to be depended on. From all the late Mr. Molstyn's Advices, and from every Information we can obtain, it appears that Saccaram Pundit and Nanah Furneeze, though at Times apparently united, have each been aiming, though by different Modes, to secure to themselves the effectual Power in the Poona Durbar. As Nanah, from several Circumstances, seems peculiarly to look to the French, and is indeed the very Man whose Subversion is the Object we now aim at, we are of course precluded forming any Connection with him: It therefore appears to us, that Saccaram Pundit is the only Man with whom we can hope to form the Engagements

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

gements that must lead to our main Object; Moraba Furneeze and Butcheba Pronder, the Two Persons mentioned in our Instructions, being at present imprisoned, and, as far as we can perceive, wholly incapable of affording us any effectual Aid, whatever their Interests may incline them to do.

The Two next Persons who strike our Attention, are the Jaghirdars Holkar and Scindia, whose Troops form the chief Force of our Enemies, and whose Decisions, if favourable to us, must, to all Appearance, enable us effectually and speedily to crush the Powers of Nanah Furneeze and his Party. During the Divisions amongst the Brahmins, we are given to understand, they have made great Actions to their Jaghires; and was the Poona Durbar once in Power to enforce their Demands, they would probably insist on the Restitution of these, as well as the Arrears due from them for the Country they hold. These are Considerations that must ever influence them to prevent the unconditional Restoration of such Power amongst the Brahmins; and therefore it seems they are naturally led to oppose the Establishment of Ragoba, which great Line of Interest seems on the Trial now to influence them both, notwithstanding any Promises or Writings they may have given, relative to a Junction with Ragoba.

The Mode of securing these several Persons and their Partizans, appears to us as follows: To secure them that we mean the Government shall go on in the Name of Mhadoo Row Naik, leaving only to Ragoba the Naibship, as in the Time of the Minority of Mhadoo Row; to assure Saccaram of the Duranship, of our Support to him in the real Powers of it, and of the Aid of our Army, in Conjunction with Scindia and Holkar, against Nanah Furneeze; to offer to the Two Jaghire Daars our Guarantee, securing to them their Jaghires, free from all Demands for Arrears from the Poona Durbar.

Agreed therefore, that Mr. Sibbald, who was desired to be present at this Meeting, should acquaint Ragoba, in a suitable Manner, with our Sentiments relative to the Cause we are embarked in—To remind him we have been led into this distressed State by too great a Reliance on his Promises and Assurances, relative to a plentiful Supply of Provisions when we got above the Gauts, and to the Junction of Tookajee Holkar, which he acquainted Mr. Sibbald on the 22d ultimo, he was confident would be in Eight Days—That the single Circumstance of having now but sufficient Provisions to conduct our Army back into the Conkan, added to the total Impossibility of procuring a Supply in a Country laid waste all round us, must infallibly force us to retire, which would be the total Ruin of his Cause possibly for ever—That the only probable Mode to remove this Distress was to make immediate Overtures of Accommodation to Scindia, and to Holkar, and to Saccaram, which must be done by committing to us the Power of negotiating for him, signifying to these different Persons his Consent to any Agreements we might conclude for him—That we see no Alternative between this and an instant Retreat to Condolah; and that, unless he consents to it, our Army must performe immediately retire, in order to prevent a total Distress from the utter Want of Provisions—That we must leave to him the Mode of opening this Negotiation; and that during the Course of it, we should be guided as much by his Advice and Interest as we consistently could.

Adjourned.

John Carnac,
Charles Egerton.

Tullagaon, 10th January, 1779. Sunday, 10th

At a Committee; P R E S E N T,
John Carnac, Esquire,
Colonel Charles Egerton.

Read, and approved, the Minutes of our last Committee.

Mr. Sibbald now delivers in Writing his Report of his Conference held Yesterday with Ragonath Row, which is entered hereafter.

The Commissary, Mr. Holmes, being sent for, and asked, How long he can depend for a Certainty on supplying the Army with Provisions? informs the Committee, From his Stock now in Hand, which is all he can depend on, he can supply the Army till the 28th inclusive, barring the Accidents which on our further Advance into the Country we may expect, having met with some Loss on our March of Yesterday: And the Commander in Chief, Colonel Cockburn, being called on, further acquaints the Committee, that without a Body of Horse he thinks it impossible, as we advance further into the open Country, to secure our Baggage from the numerous Cavalry, and that of course the Provisions are equally exposed with the rest of it.

Upon duly weighing these Circumstances, it appears clearly that the Prediction Ragonath Row mentioned in our Proceedings of the 6th Instant, relative to the Multiplication of our Distresses as we advance forward, are now certainly verified; and that even should we proceed to Poona during the Course of any Negotiation that might be opened, the Army would most probably be reduced to such Distress as would compel us into any Terms the Party we might treat with should think fit to propose upon us, for it is certainly not presumable that they would fail to avail themselves of a Circumstance so signally favourable as our total Dependance on them for Provisions, which they must very soon perceive.

With

With respect to the confident Assertion of Ragoba relative to the Junction of Holcar, and to supplying our Army with Provisions for some Days from this Place, we must observe from the formation of Mr. Holmes, who has examined into the Probability of this with his own Eyes, that Ragoba, whatever he may be led to believe by the People about him, must be so totally deceived at this Point of Supply that there is no Dependance on him. It appears that what Grain the English could not carry off from the Plunder of this Place, they have scattered in the Streets, and now leave pernicious Seeds so as to render it almost wholly useless. As to the Junction of Holcar, it appears wholly imprudent to suffer ourselves to be led into a Scene of Distress by this too long pursued Hope; but as from the Report of the Commander of Artillery it appears requisite to remain here one Day longer, we may make a Virtue of this Necessity by a Compliance with his Request, and let him Time acquaint him if we are now deceived, this Compliance he must feel to be the last we can possibly give into; and farther, to do as much as in us lies towards fulfilling the Hope he entertains of the Junction of Holcar: It is resolved, immediately to write that Chief a suitable Letter, remonstrating him of his Promise made to Mr. Mostyn, and expressing our Surprise, that instead of joining us he appears now in league with our Enemies, and acting hostilely against us; as we mean to call Ragoba to fulfil all the Promises and Engagements which had been made him relative to Jaghire.

Mr. Lewis presents to the Committee a Paper, containing Information relative to the Body of Troops belonging to Moraba Furneeze into the Conkan. On this we make observation, that however useful this Body might be, it does not appear to us that this Circumstance can considerably relieve our present main Difficulty, which consists in the total Improbability of any further Supply of Provisions but through the Conkan.

Upon due Consideration of every Circumstance, it is resolved instantly to send off Copies of Minutes of Yesterday's and this Day's Consultation, for the Information of our Superiors at Bombay. And unless the Army of Tookajee Holcar does join us conformable to the Assurances of Ragoba, it is farther resolved, however displeasing the Circumstance may be, to secure effectually the Preservation of our Army, by falling back so far from this Place as is requisite to secure our Communication with the Conkan, and that the Commander of the Army must be instantly acquainted with our Resolution, in order that he may have Time to concert the requisite Means for putting it into Execution.

As to the Troops of Moraba, said to be below the Gauts, they will be of infinite Service in conducting our Supplies of Provisions through the Conkan, and therefore the Officers who command them must be directed by the Agent of Moraba Furneeze to remain at Campoly till he receives further Directions from him. Mr. Frazer must be immediately acquainted with the Circumstances of these Troops being friendly to us, but directed not to suffer them to ascend through our Passes till further Orders.

Adjourned.

John Carnac.
Charles Egerton.

Mr. Sibbald this Evening waited upon Ragoba by the Committee's Directions, to make known to him the Resolutions of this Day, which he delivered to the following Effect: That Ragoba was sensible that when the Governor and Select Committee first engaged, by Treaty, to support him and to place him in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, that they were induced thereto by the Assurances of being joined by a considerable Body of Troops belonging to Holcar, and other Maratta Chiefs who had entered into Engagements with the late Mr. Mostyn to this Effect, and which Assurances had been repeatedly confirmed to the Committee by Ragoba himself, at their different Meetings since leaving Bombay, till within these Two Days past; but that he himself now allowed that these Assurances were so sensibly altered, that he did not expect to be joined by any one, unless a Defeat could be given to the Ministerial Army now in our Fronts, which by their Mode of Proceeding, in retreating as they advanced, appeared impracticable: That he must therefore allow that we are greatly deceived and disappointed in his Assurances and Representation; and that so far from having any Friends in the Empire, that the whole Empire was in Arms against him, and Holcar amongst the rest, who was the Person he seemed to have the most Dependence upon: That it was with Concern the Committee must observe that they had too good Reason to believe that there subsisted a total Want of Confidence on the Part of the Maratta Chiefs in his Promises and Assurances; and that no Negotiation would ever be set on Foot with them, unless commenced by us. In this Situation of Affairs (as he was acquainted we had only 16 Days Provision for the Army) the Committee saw an absolute Necessity of taking such Measures as appeared to them eligible, without further Dependance on him, and had therefore sent to advise him, that they were determined, in the Name of the English Company, to invite Holcar, Scindia, and Saccaram, to a Conference, and upon their shewing an Inclination to join the English in the present Business, that we would guarantee to them their respective Jaghires, together with all their other Pretensions, as Officers of the Maratta State.—After deliberating some Time upon the Subject of the Committee's Message, he allowed that their Reasons for their Determinations were just; that he certainly did give us the strongest Assurances of being joined by a large Body of Troops, in which he had found himself deceived: He allowed that Holkar appeared in Arms against him, and that he had this Day two Guns firing upon our Camp, but that conformable to his Assurance,

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

Assurances all their Shot had fallen short. He however earnestly requested the Committee would defer for One Day writing to any of the Maratta Chiefs but Holcar, as he expected in the Course of to-morrow a Vackel from Scindia, which a Letter from the Committee might probably prevent, as he would from thence infer that we began to despair of Success, which would of course encourage the Whole of the Ministerial Party to hold out. Mr. Sibbald observes to him, that the Loss of a Day would be a Matter of no great Consideration, had we any Prospect of meeting with Supplies of Provisions for our Army; but as that was not the Case, we had not an Hour to lose. To this he replied, that the Care of supplying the Army with Provisions was his, and that he would furnish the Commissary from this Town with a sufficient Quantity for some Days, and that we should get more at the next Village.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee, Bombay.

Gentlemen,

We addressed you on the 6th instant, and now send a Duplicate of that Address.

On the 7th in the Morning the Army moved from the Plain below Mondhurna to Carculla, on the 8th from Carculla to Wargoan, and on the 9th from Wargoan to this Place, where we were given to expect they had assembled their whole Force, and were determined to make a Stand and oppose our Advance; the Event however has proved to us their Determination of adhering to their Plan of burning the Towns, ravaging the Country, harrassing us, and cutting off our Supplies of Provisions. We are informed, that on Friday last the 8th, about Noon, this Town was given up first to be plundered, and on the Evening of that Day it was set on Fire. We found it Yesterday in Flames as we entered, which was with so little Opposition, that we are convinced they do not mean to hazard an Engagement with us, but under some manifest Disadvantage on our Side. The Mode they have invariably pursued is a very distant Cannonade, and by Movements with their Horse, harrassing our Men by constantly engaging our Attention on every Side.

For the Sake of Expedition, we determined to send you immediately Copies of the Minutes of our Consultations when met in Committee Yesterday and To-day, which will fully inform you of our Situation and Intentions. We are informed, that Saccaram, Nanah, Holcar, Scindia, Bhim Row, Ponisa, and Hurry Punt, with other Chiefs, are now in the Field, and that the real Number of their Troops is about 25,000 Horse.

We are, with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Tullegaon,
10th January
1779.

Your most obedient
humble Servants,

Jn^o Carnac,
Cha^r Egerton.

To Tookajee Holcar.

After Compliments:

The Agreements which you made with Mr. Mostyn are well known to you. The English Army is now come to this Place in their Way to Poona, and I am much surprized that you have not yet acted according to your Promise; if you have any Doubts about what was promised you by Mr. Mostyn, on the Part of the Company, I must tell you that the Government of Bombay has given the full Powers to settle these Matters into my Hands. I know what Mr. Mostyn told you; and I write this Letter under the Seal of the Company, to acquaint you, if you comply with your Agreements, I will secure to you fully all that was promised by Mr. Mostyn, and the English Friendship to you will last for ever. What can I say more?

J. Carnac.

At a Committee; PRESENT,

Monday,

John Carnac,
Colonel Charles Egerton.

Read, and approved, the Minutes of our last Meeting.

The Committee met to consider on the following Report from Mr. Sibbald:

That Ragonath Row had told him, that finding the Necessity of gaining over Scindia to his Party, he had Three Days ago written him a Letter, signifying to him, that though the Ministers had confederated against his Government, and were destroying the State, yet it was ill in him and Holcar, the Two ancient Officers of the Circar, to abet them; that he wished to end every Thing amicably with them, and therefore offered them his Friendship; and that if Scindia would send Two Persons to talk with him, whom he named, he trusted by their Means to accommodate all Differences: That he must not think he made this Overture from any Sense of an Inability to oppose his Enemies, as he held himself equal to it by the Aid of the Europeans only, but that these Europeans, in taking

REP. VI.

(D)

Part

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Part in his Quarrels, sought only their own Aggrandizement, and to obtain the Country; which neither suited his Views or Scindia's. That Scindia had returned an Answer, the Purport of which was, that he had sent Two Persons who would communicate what he had to say on the Subject; and if it then pleased Ragoba, he might send his Orders, and the Two Men he requested him to come: That Ragoba had sent back these Two Men, desiring Scindia's Vackeels might be sent, that he expected them this Evening; he said his Scheme in this was, by a total Compliance with the Demands of Scindia, to gain him over for the present, and afterwards he would do as he pleased; he meant even to desire the Company's Guarantee to his Agreement with him — Whilst the Committee was debating on this Business, a Message arrived from Ragoba to Mr. Sibbald, who on his Return acquainted the Committee, that Ragoba now told him, that the Two Men he had sent back to Scindia had been prevented from going by a Party of Horse, and that therefore he could not expect the Vakeels of Scindia To-night; but as the People were gone in the Habit of Juggys, and it was now 11 Hours since he had sent them, he hoped they might get safe, and that he soon should have an Answer.

Whatever Importance the gaining over Scindia may be in our present Situation, yet this under Ground we do not think sufficient to warrant any Departure from our Resolutions of Yesterday, particularly as it is now certain, that though Holcar may not act against, yet that he cannot act for us. This Ragoba plainly declares; and in further Confirmation, Mr. Carnac now lays before the Committee a Letter from Lieutenant Richardson, this Instant received.

Resolved therefore, That the Commander of the Army, Colonel Cockburn, who was present at this Committee, and concurred in Opinion with us, be directed to march back the Army this Night towards Condolah.

Adjourned.

John Carnac,
Charles Egerton,

To Colonel Goddard, commanding the English Forces from Bengal.

Sir,

You will no Doubt ere this have received Advice from the Select Committee at Bombay, of our being appointed conjointly with Mr. Thomas Mostyn, who is since deceased, a Committee for conducting Ragonath Row to Poona, and their Directions for your communicating with us on all important Occasions.

Within these Two Days past the Face of our Affairs is so changed with respect to the principal Cause that led to directing your March towards Kineer, a Fort in Possession of Moraba Furnas, that we must now give you the following Advice:

If you are joined by such a Body of the Forces of Moodajee Buncello, that you can advance forward in spite of an Enemy, who with a large Body of Cavalry will keep hovering round you on Quarters, aiming at the Seizures of your Baggage and Provisions; and if you have also a sufficient Quantity of Provisions to last you till you can either reach Broach or Surat, we would then advise you proceed forward to either of those Places, as may be most convenient for your speedy Arrival there, but if you think you cannot proceed forward in Face of such an Enemy as we have described, without imminent Hazard of Distress on your March, from Accidents happening to your Provisions, the Supply of which you may not be certain till your Arrival either at Broach or Surat, we then advise you to remain on the Borders of Berar, or wherever you think you can secure Provisions, till you may receive further Directions from the Select Committee at Bombay.

We are,

Sir,

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Jn^o Carnac,
Ch. Egerton,

Camp at Tullegaon,
11th January 1779.

To Lieutenant Colonel William Cockburn, commanding the English Forces now at Tullegaon.

Sir,

Having maturely deliberated upon the Necessity of the Measure, you are hereby directed to march back the Army under your Command towards the Pass at Condolah, as expeditiously as possible.

We are, Sir,

Tullegaon,
11th January 1779.

Your obedient humble Servants,

J. Carnac,
Ch. Egerton,

Wednesday, 12th. The Army fell back to the Village of Wurgaon.

Received

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Received the following Letter from the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay. .

Wednesday,
13th.

To John Carnac, Esquire, and Colonel Charles Egerton.

Gentlemen,

Having thought proper to promote Major Gaspar Dagon to the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel: I now enclose a Commission for him, signed by the Board, which you are accordingly to deliver him.

We are very sorry to advise you that Mr. Mostyn departed this Life, the 1st Instant, at this place.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servants,

William Hornby,

Daniel Draper.

Bombay Castle,
7th January 1779.

Addressed the Honourable the Select Committee at Bombay, in the following Letter.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President, &c. Select Committee, Bombay.

Gentlemen,

Agreeable to what was written to you under the 9th Instant from Tullegaon, we fell back with the Army to this Place on Yesterday Morning; and the Enemy having by some Means got Intelligence of our moving, attacked us on the March before Day-light, which they continued with great Vigour until 2 o'Clock in the Afternoon. Their numerous Bodies of Cavalry rendered it impossible to protect our Baggage, a Part of which consequently fell into their Hands, as the commanding Officer foretold would be the Case; and it is with Concern we acquaint you, that in the Course of the very long Attack our People Yesterday sustained, we suffered some Loss, the Particulars of which shall be hereafter transmitted. In Justice to our Troops, both Europeans and Sepoys, we have the Pleasure to acquaint you, that they behaved with the utmost Intrepidity and Alacrity during the whole Attack.

We shall continue our March to Condolah with all possible Expedition, in the Pursuit of which we expect to be much harrassed; but to render our Baggage as little troublesome as possible, and our Body as compact as Circumstances will admit, the Commanding Officer means to reduce every Part of the Baggage that is not absolutely necessary.

We are, with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient

humble Servants;

J. Carnac,
Ch. Egerton.

A Committee held to deliberate relative to Overtures for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay. No Minutes taken, being in a severe Cannonade, and a Number of Persons standing round.

Letter to the Peshwa.

Ditto from Ditto, in Answer.

Ditto to Ditto, at Night.

Thursday, 14th.

This Morning Mr. Farmer was sent to the Maratta Camp to propose an Accommodation, which we judged might be brought about by Ragoba's going over to Scindia, which he seemed determined to do, rather than run the Risk of another Day's March with our Army, as he declared his Fears of its proving fatal both to him and us, so great an Idea does he seem to entertain of the Enemy's Strength. We directed Mr. Farmer to deliver the following Message to the Durbar "that having had Assurances given us, that the Establishment of Ragoba in the Regency of the Maratta Empire, was a Measure much wished for by many of the Sirdars of the Maratta Sircar, as well as by the Country in general, we had consented to conduct him with an English Army for that Purpose; but contrary to our Hopes and Expectations, we found his Establishment opposed by the whole Empire: That we had seen with infinite Concern the Country laid waste and destroyed at our Approach, which being so very contrary to our Intentions by espousing the Cause of Ragoba, ~~and~~ we were determined to be the Occasion of no further Desolation, and were therefore resolved to march back with the Army to Bombay: That after this Declaration, we expected all Hostilities would cease, and by so doing, Peace and Friendship would be established between the English and the Maratta State; if on the other Hand should we experience the least Act of Hostility on our part, we should consider it as a Declaration of War against the English Nation."

Received

A P P E N D I X, N° 136.

Received the following Letter, with a Note written in Cypher, from Mr. Farmer,

To John Carnac, and Charles Egerton, Esquires.

Gentlemen,

I was conducted to the Topa High Hill, where I was presented to Mhadja Scindia, Nana Funeze, and Hurry Punt Furkia, as to the Durbar, and delivered them your Letter. They appointed Hurry Punt Furkia, and Badjes Punt Ponsia to talk with me, and deliver their Answer. I explained the Cause of our coming in the Manner you directed, and the Reason of our Return, and I left it to them to accept on one Hand the Friendship of the English Nation, by suffering us to return peaceably, or their Enmity by molesting us on our March. After many Exclamations of our coming thus uninvited, and representing the great Charges and Losses their State had suffered by the Aid given to Ragoba, their final Answer is this, That if we wish to remain at Peace with them, Ragonath Row must be delivered up, and then we may return quietly; otherwise, we may do as we please. I write surrounded with People, not permitted to go down to my Chest for Paper, and hardly permitted to have my Palankeen brought up, and I am to wait your final Answer, regarding which, I dare not venture any Opinion.

I am with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Maratta Camp,
14th January, 12 A.M.
1779.

Your most obedient

humble Servant,

W. G. Farmer.

The Purport of the Note received from Mr. Farmer, written in Cyphers.

They are fully informed of your State. I see no Remedy, but either to give Scindia to understand, through Ragoba, that you shall push on with him in your Hand at all Perils, or to treat with them whilst you have him, which must still be on their own Terms. Of Provision there are no Hopes.

As Ragoba has already intimated his Intentions of delivering himself up to Scindia rather than run the Risk of marching with our Army, and has in Consequence carried on a Correspondence with Scindia for Two Days past, we think in the present Situation of Affairs it is most advisable to write to Mr. Farmer, that all Difficulty of Accommodation is removed by Ragobah's Design of going over to Scindia; and that we expect in consequence the proper Securities from the Durbar for proceeding unmolested on our March.

Sent off the following Letter to Mr. Farmer at Ten o'Clock this Morning.

To Mr. William Gamul Farmer.

Sir,

We have just received your Letter; and have in Answer to acquaint you, that we do not conceive there will be any Difficulty in complying with the Proposition of the Ministers, as Ragoba has informed us of his Desire to deliver himself up to Madjee Scindia at Nine o'Clock To-morrow Morning, in consequence of a Conference he had this Morning with his Vackeels; and upon his so doing, we have no Doubt that the Ministers will give us proper Security on their Part for a due Performance of the Terms now proposed, and that you will return with them. Mr. Sibbald will accompany Ragoba to Scindia's Encampment.

We are,

Sir,

Wurgaon Camp,
14th January 1779.

Your obedient Servants,

J. Carnac,
Ch. Egerton.

This Morning Mr. Farmer's Servant returned with the following Letter dispatched last Night.

To John Carnac, Esquire, and Colonel Charles Egerton.

Gentlemen,

I waited on the Top of the Hill where the Durbar sat till near Sunset, when I received you and having sent to acquaint Hurry Punt Furkia with an Answer being come, he conducted me to Nanah Furneeze: I there told them, That the Difficulty which I apprehended was removed, by the Determination of Ragoba to surrender himself to Madjee Scindia; and I now imagined the Durbar would preserve the Friendship of the English Nation, by suffering our Army to return quietly to Bombay. Nanah Furneeze said, as we had broken the Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton, before our Army moved we must agree to remain as we were by our Treaty formed with the late Peshwa Nanah. I observed, that in the Morning the only Difficulty that was started was relative to Ragoba who had smoothed it by consenting to surrender himself; that I desired at once an explicit Answer whether or not Hostages would be given for the March of the Army to Bombay, if Ragoba

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

surrender himself? They then said they must consult Madjee Scindia. I then withdrew; and after some Time Hurry Pundit came again to me, and told me I might go to my Tent To-night, and that an Answer would be delivered to me in the Morning; but I insisted on a clear and positive Answer instantly to that Question relative to Hostages for our proceeding unmolested, if Dada Saboo was permitted to surrender himself to Scindia. Hurry Punt went back, and I was soon after introduced to a Durbar, where Madjee Scindia entirely presided. Hurry Punt was there, and other Persons whom I did not know. After stating the Business which I came on this Morning, which related only to the Two Questions, whether they would suffer us to proceed peaceably to Bembay? or, whether they would declare what, by molesting us? and reminding him of the Objection relative to the Person of Ragoba being removed, by his voluntary Consent to surrender himself, I desired an explicit Answer. He said, that as to the Surrender of Ragoba, it mattered little; that we must settle a new Treaty with the Maratta State, the One made by Colonel Upton being entirely broke by the present Invasion of their Country. In a few Words, they seem to me to feel themselves in the situation with respect to us, which the Turkish Vizier felt himself in with respect to Peter the III, the Time the Empress Catherine sent in her Jewels to the Vizier. I dare not speak any plainer; but by then Language you may judge what they think: In any Situation whatever, they could not speak in a higher Tone. The Result of my Conversation with Scindia was just this, that whether there was Peace or War, it was equal to him; but that having broken the Treaty made with Colonel Upton, we must now on the Spot set about forming a new one, to serve as a future Guide between the Maratta State and the English. I told him, that my Business at first related only to the Two points, of their permitting us to proceed peaceably, or not; that I had then further to define an explicit Answer relative to the willful Surrender of the Person of Ragoba. To both which he replied, that exclusive of this, a Peace must now be settled betwixt the Maratta State and the English on the Spot, that I had no Directions about this; but I would communicate to you this Night what he laid, and an Answer To-morrow Morning. Although my Heart is full, yet I must remain my Pen; nor can I by any Means, in so nice a Case, offer any Mark to guide you by. I beg a speedy Answer to this, and remain with Respect,

Your obedient humble Servant,
W. G. Farmer.

P. S. I waited on the Hill where the Durbar met till past 7; and where I was then led, and how conducted, the Bearer will inform you. I am afraid no good Effect will come from my Deputation, though I risk my Life: By what with Want of Food, and Watching, I am fatigued to Death; so you will excuse my writing. 11 o'Clock, 14th January.

Colonel Cockburn being called upon by the Committee to give his Opinion in Writing, relative to the Practicability of marching back the Army to Bombay, delivers in the following:

Being called upon for my Opinion on the Possibility of making a Retreat to Bombay, I must declare that I think the same utterly impracticable. Our Troops are already much harassed and dispirited from the Necessity we were under of returing from Tullegaon; and were we to sustain another Attack from the Maratta Army, I am of Opinion the Troops would not stand it; and that consequently the whole Army, with its numerous Followers, would be cut to Pieces. But the Distance from Panwell being about Forty-five Miles, it is not the Attack of One Day we should have to sustain, as I think, were it possible to move from hence, that we could not gain that Place in Twenty Days; and it is therefore chimerical to the last Degree to suppose that our small Army could support themselves from the daily Attacks they would be certain of for so long a Period. I therefore cannot charge myself to conduct the Army under these Circumstances to Bombay; and Humanity must prompt some other Method than an Attempt to retire in the Face of the whole Strength of the Maratta Empire with such a Handful of Men, who must in such Case be sacrificed.

W^m Cockburn.

Camp, at Wurgoan,
15th January 1779.

We observe with Concern, that the Enemy appear too sensible of our present very disagreeable Situation from the dictatorial Strain in which they now deliver themselves. It is however necessary, we think, to advise Mr. Farmer that we have no Powers to enter into or conclude any Treaties, such Powers being lodged solely with the Governor General and Council of Bengal; but if the Durbar will abide by their first Proposal, we are ready to agree to it on our Parts.

To Mr. William Gamul Farmer.

Sir,

We received your Letter of last Night only an Hour ago, the Harcharras having been detained ~~some~~-Accident. In Answer to which you must acquaint the Durbar, that they demand what have no Power to agree to, the entering into and concluding Treaties being solely confined to Governor General and Council of Calcutta, to whom therefore they must send their Vackets. The only Power left to us, is the giving up the Cause and Person of Ragonath Row, which done,

APP. VI.

(E)

131

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

must certainly put an End to all Disputes between the English and the Maratta State, and there is no Doubt that Peace and Friendship will then subsist between us from henceforwards.

You must inform them, should we enter into any Treaty we should only deceive them, having no such Powers; we therefore desire they will immediately acquaint us, whether upon our abiding by the Conditions first proposed, of delivering up Ragoba, they will comply on their Parts by suffering us to march unmolested to Bombay, and for which Purpose to give us the necessary Securities.

We are, Sir,

Wurgaon,
15th January 1779.

Your most obedient Servants,
Jn^o Carnac,
Ch. Egerton.

As we have good Reason to believe, that a Gentleman being sent from us to Madjee Scindia, is more likely to produce an Accommodation than a Deputation to the Durbar in general;

Resolved, immediately to dispatch Mr. Thomas Holmes, who has offered himself for that Purpose; and to give him full Powers to settle with the Durbah for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay, on such Conditions as he may be able to obtain, since it is the Opinion of the Commander in Chief that a Retreat is impracticable.

At Noon To-day received the following Letter from Mr. Farmer, dated this Morning, which is now unnecessary to answer, as Mr. Holmes is dispatched with full Powers.

To John Carnac, Esquire, and Colonel Charles Egerton.

Gentlemen,

I am this Instant arrived at the Durbar, where your Letter was delivered to me by Aide Bawn, on the Part of Mhadjee Scindya: As representing the Durbar, he desired to be informed of the Contents; when I explained what you said relative to the want of Powers, and desired an explicit Answer relative to the single Proposition, whether on the Delivery of Ragoba, Securities would be given for our safe and unmolested Arrival at Bombay? He observed in Answer, That if you had not Powers to make new Treaties, he wished to see by what Powers you broke that made by Colonel Upton, by the Aid given to Ragoba, and desired an explicit Answer, whether or not it was by virtue of any direct Authority from the Governor General and Council, that if it was desired to see that Authority, in order that he might look to them about it. I told him, this was foreign to the Business, and that I requested the explicit Answer mentioned in your Letter; but still he insists first knowing by what Authority you acted, because, if you acted on your own Authority you must answer it, and make a new Agreement. A true Translation of your Letter was demanded, and I was given to understand, that if I did not give one, there were People in the Camp who understood English. I am rather sorry for it, because your own Declarations seem to preclude all peaceable Arrangements. After much Talk, I brought the Matter to this Point, That in respect to what was past, we expected every Thing to be forgot in consequence of our returning back; that Dada Sahab had cost us many Lacks of Rupees; that all we had now left or had was his Person; that I desired to know, whether on the Delivery of his Person, our Army should be permitted to proceed quietly to Bombay without further Dispute, and whether Securities would be given for that Purpose? the Answer I received is plainly this, That Dada Saheb may be surrendered, or not, as we please; but till a new Treaty is made between the English and the Maratta State, our Army must remain where it is, whatever may be the Consequence.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Maratta Camp,
15th January 1779.

Your most obedient
humble Servant,

W. G. Farmer.

This Night about 10 o'Clock Mr. Holmes returned from the Maratta Camp, and advises us that he has settled Matters with Mhadjee Scindia, and the rest of the Durbar, for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay on the only Conditions they would hear of, and which are such as cannot fail to fill us with the deepest Concern, being humiliating in the highest Degree, and which nothing but the avowed Opinion and Declaration of the principal Officers, as to the Impracticability of effecting our Retreat, could justify our acceding to. We must however oblige, that Madajee Scindia and the whole Durbar, cannot plead Ignorance of our want of Powers to conclude such a Treaty as they have now prescribed to us; they having demanded both a true Explanation and Translation of our Letter of Yesterday to Mr. Farmer, wherein we expressly direct him to acquaint them, that we have no Powers to enter into any Treaty whatever; that were we to pretend such Powers, we should be only deceiving them, so they have evidently compelled us to enter into a Treaty, they were apprized we had no Powers to agree to.

Mr. Holmes returned this Morning to Scindia's Encampment, in order to finish the Agreement, of which a rough Sketch was Yesterday drawn out.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

This Evening Messrs. Farmer and Holmes returned from the Maratta Camp, with Scindia's Vaegeets, in order for their having an Interview with us, and to see the Treaty entered into duly executed; of which a Translate is hereafter entered, as also of a separate Article in Favour of Mhadajee Scindia, which Messrs. Farmer and Holmes advise us they were obliged to consent to.

Translation of the Articles of Agreement between Seremunt Mhaderow Narrain, Pundit Purdhan, on one Part, and the English Company on the other Part.

In the Time of the late Seremunt Pundit Purdhan Mhadoo Row Bullol, Matters went on peaceably; since then, the English obtained Possession of several Places belonging to the Sircar, such as the Islands of Salfette and Ouram, Jambooseer, and the Mahaals and Purgunnahs of Broach, both belonging to the Sircar and the Guicawar; and the English gave their Aid to Ragonath Row Dada Saheb. Upon which, War having commenced, Colonel John Upton came from Calcutta with full Powers, and made an Agreement; and according to that Agreement Matters were to go on between the Company and the Maratta Sircar. But on the Side of the English this Agreement was not adhered to; they having given Aid to Ragonath Row, and making Preparations for War, mounted the Raouts, invaded the Districts of the Maratta Sircar, and began to make Hostilities; upon which the Sircar also prepared for War. At the District of Wurgaon, near Indonny Tulligarn, Mr. John Carnac and Colonel Charles Egerton, of the Select Committee of Bombay, being fully empowered, did depute Mr. Thomas Holmes and Mr. Farmer. Further, from the Beginning there was a Friendship between the Sircar and the English; which being interrupted, Colonel John Upton made an Agreement, according to which Treaty Matters did not proceed, and therefore that Treaty is annihilated; and in the same Manner, and on the same Footing, as the English and the Sircar were in the Time of the late Mhadoo Row, in that Manner are they now to remain, the Aid and Cause of Ragoba to be given up, no Protection to be afforded him, nor any Aid to be afforded to the Enemies of the Maratta Sircar. The Islands of Salfette and Ouram, and the other Islands and Places, as Jambooseer and the Mahaals of Broach, formerly belonging to the Maratta Sircar, and the Guicawar, such as Chikly, Veriow, &c. were taken Possession of; these we give up, and agree to go on and remain as we were in the Time of the late Peshwah Mhauoo Row Bullol. Upon which this Agreement is made with the Sircar. That in the Time of the late Mhadoo Row Bullol Pundit Purdhan, Matters went on peaceably; and since then different Places belonging to the Sircar, such as the Islands of Salfette and Ouram, and other Islands, and further Jambooseer and other Mahaals, and the Aumils of Broach, belonging to the Sircar and to the Guicawar, the English got Possession of; these must be delivered back to the Sircar, and no Aid or Protection must in future be afforded to Ragonath Row, or to any of the Enemies of the Sircar. In this Manner do we faithfully promise to perform; and on the Part of the Sircar good Faith is also to be observed. Ragonath Row Dada Saheb was with us; he by his own free Consent committed himself, with all his Effects, to the Care of Tookajee Holcar and Madjee Scindy. The English Army with us is now at Wurgaon: It must be permitted to proceed, with all its Effects and Appurtenances, to Bombay; and as Security for this on the Part of the Sircar, Two Persons will proceed, belonging to each of the Sirdars, by Name Nazo Guncish and Wissajee Samash, Ballanow Govind and Rana Cawn, to conduct the Army to Bombay; and for this Purpose Troops shall be sent with you, or not, as you please. The English Army that is with us shall not offer any Molestation to any Person on the Road. The Antrewede and Bundlecund Provinces, and their Sardars, being always under the Sircar, no Damage is to be done to them; and the English Army from Calcutta having crossed the Nerbuddah, is now at Hossengabad: It is not to be permitted to proceed forwards, but is to be sent back to Calcutta; and on the Road no Molestation is to be given to any one. The before-mentioned Agreement is formed by the Mediation of Tookajee Holcar and Madjee Scindy, and according to it Matters are in future to proceed, without any Kind of Failure. This we pledge the English Faith to observe; and the Sircar is also to observe it. No Aid or Protection is to be afforded to the French.

Signed in the Maratta Camp, } D° in the English D°,
by }
Thomas Holmes, } by
and } Jn° Carnac,
W. G. Farmer. } and
Ch. Egerton.

Agreement of John Carnac, Esquire, Counsellor, and Colonel Egerton, an English Committee of Bombay, with Madjee Scindia.

That after falling out with the Sircar of Mhaderow Narrain Pundit Pradhan, we with an Army came upon the Gadt, and remained at Tullegaon; on which you ordered a fighting, and we both parties did fight, in which we were defeated; returned back, and encamped at Wurgaon with Dada Saheb. - We could hardly reach Bonbay with our Army and Stores; considering which we sent Messrs. Farmer and Holmes to you, desiring you would come between us, and get the Sircars and Treaty settled as before, and conduct us and the Army to Bombay: You came between us and the Sircars and English Treaty settled, and you promised to conduct us and the Army to Bom-bay,

A P P E N D I X, № 130.

bay, without Molestation from any body : You made our Escape entirely; all which we took into Consideration and were very glad : You are a principal Officer and Well-wisher to this Government, which has induced us to keep a Friendship with you; this came into our Mind, and we were satisfied : That you made us free from the Sircar's and every body's Molestation, and got the Treaty settled as before, without any Dispute from the Sircar; therefore we thought we should serve you, and for which Reason have of our free Will and Accord agreed, under the King's and Company's Seal, to deliver up to you the Fort of Broach, with its Government, in the same Manner the Mogul did hold it; which Fort is now in our Possession, and which we have given you. We further agree, that we will on our Arrival at Bombay obtain the Governor's Dustuck under the King's Seal to the Killedar of Broach, and deliver the Fort and its Country in the Manner the Mogul did hold it, upon you. Under Oath no Dispute shall arise in this: This we promise solemnly; and we have let Mr. Farmer and Mr. Charles Stewart with you as Hostages for the Performance of this Agreement, we will let no Dispute arise : This we agree to in Writing.

Wungaon near Fullegam, 27th Julieze.

N.B. The above was translated by a native Linguist, and is an exact Copy thereof.

Sunday, 17th. This Morning Mr. Farmer returned to the Maratta Camp with Madjee Scindia's Vackel, with Papers executed, and by whom we sent Madjee Scindia a Present of a Horse. He came back to our Camp about Noon, with a Party of Horsemen who are to accompany the Army to Panwell, to acquaints us we may march immediately, and that the Hostages mentioned in the Treaty will be taken us before we reach the Village of Koita.

The Army marched this Afternoon at One o'Clock, and reached Khamsetta about Six in the Evening.

Monday, 18th. At Five this Morning the Army marched from Khamsetta, and arrived at Condolah about six o'Clock.

Tuesday, 19th. This Morning dispatched the following Letter to Colonel Goddard :

To Colonel Goddard.

Sir,

We dispatched you on the 16th a Letter, containing Orders which, upon Recollection, we do not think ourselves authorized to give you, you are therefore to pay no Regard thereunto.

We are, Sir,

Your obedient humble Servants,

Jn^o Carnac.

Ch. Egerton.

Campoly,
19 January 1779.

The Letter which we mention in the foregoing to have written Colonel Goddard under the 13th Instant, is not entered upon our Diary, as Mr. Farmer carried the original Letter with him to the Maratta Camp, and it escaped him to leave a Copy. The Purport however was to advise Colonel Goddard that the Face of Things was so materially altered since writing to him last, as to occasion our marching back to Bombay, and that in consequence of an Agreement entered into between us with the Maratta State, we now directed him to march back with the Army under his Command to Bengal.

This Morning the Army moved down the Gant to Campoly.

Wednesday, 20th. This Evening arrived a Pair of Hircarrahs with the following Letter from the Honourable Select Committee :

To John Carnac, Esquire, and Colonel Charles Egerton.

Gentlemen,

We have received your Letter of the 6th Instant, and having fully considered your Representation of the State of Affairs, we are of Opinion, that the best and most effectual Way to improve your own Situation, and to induce Ragoba's Friends to declare openly in his Favour, will be for our Army to advance with Vigour and Expedition towards Poona; and we accordingly now send Instructions to that Effect to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, to whom we find Colonel Egerton has delivered over the Command. Colonel Egerton's bad State of Health, and the Death of Mr. Mostyn, rendering it necessary to make a new Arrangement in the Poona Committee, we have resolved to appoint Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn and Mr. James Sibbald to supply the Places of the aforesaid Gentlemen in the Committee, with the same Powers and Instructions as given to the former Committee, by our Commission and general Letter, bearing Date the 5th of last Month; and hereby appoint John Carnac Esquire, Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, and Mr. James Sibbald, to be a Committee according for the Uses and Purposes mentioned in our said Commission and Letter of Instructions; observing nevertheless, that this Appointment is not to take place unless Colonel Egerton's bad State of Health should

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

would still continue to disqualify him for public Business, or oblige him to return to Bombay; in either of which Cases Mr. Carnac is to act jointly with the above named Gentlemen in Manner aforesaid, and this Letter will be to them a sufficient Warrant. Our Appointment of Major Dagon to the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel, has anticipated your Application on that Subject; but we cannot consent to send to the Army the other Officers you mention. The President has written very plainly to Ragoba our Sentiments respecting the Circumstances mentioned in your Letter; and we think a very good Method to bring the Matter to a Proof would be for you to desire Ragoba to deliver to Mohabah Furneeze's Vackeel an Order to the Killadar Ahmadorasut for his Release, and to open the communication through the Conkan, by affording Relief to the Port at the Head of the Gaus, which are much surprised, has been left destitute of all Kinds of Supplies. We have determined on sending a Detachment of a Company of Europeans, Three of Sepoys, with Two Field Pieces, and Party of Artillery Men, under the Command of Captain Richard Eames, to clear the Roads between Panwell and Campoly of the Maratta Horse, which we learn are hovering in those Parts, and convoy a Supply of Provisions to that Port. The Party is to be a separate Command, and not to be considered as belonging to the Army now above the Gaus.

We have just received a Letter from the Governor General and Council, of which we shall send you a Copy when the Roads are open. The Contents in short are, That they have given Colonel Goddard full Powers to conclude a Treaty with Moodajee Bouncello, for which Reason they think it necessary to revoke the Controul they had given us over that Detachment, though they observe their intention is not to withdraw the Services of the Detachment entirely from the Support of any Measures we might have formed in Reliance of such Support, if those Measures shall not prove incompatible with the Instructions given to Colonel Goddard, and with the Engagements he may form in consequence. We shall however immediately describe our present Situation to Colonel Goddard, who on the 22d ultimo was still at Hissengabad, and press him to march towards Poona.

We are,

Bombay Castle,
11th January 1779.

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient Servants,

W^m. Hornby,
Daniel Draper.

19th January 1779.

The Pattamars dispatched with this Letter having returned, it is necessary to acquaint you, that Lieutenant Fraser has abandoned his Post at Condolah, and which it is reported is now in Possession of the Enemy.

The following Letter to Colonel Cockburn was enclosed in the foregoing one to the Committee:

To Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn.

Sir,

As we find Colonel Egerton has been obliged by bad Health to resign to you the chief Command of the Army, we judge it proper to observe to you, that from the Representation we have received of the State of Affairs, it appears very necessary the Army should advance with the utmost Vigour and Expedition towards Poona, in order to give Spirits to Ragoba's Friends, and secure Provisions for our own Troops; we shall therefore trust to your Activity and Zeal for the Service, that no Time be lost in moving forwards, or Measure neglected to distress and frustrate the Attempts of the Enemy.

We are

Bombay Castle,
11th January 1779.

Your loving Friends,

W^m. Hornby,
Dan^t. Draper.

Chowke, 21st January 1779.

At Half past Five this Morning, the Army marched from Campoly, and came to their Ground at Chowke at One o'Clock.

Thursday, 22d

Received on the Road the following Letter from Mr. Farmer:

To John Carnac, Esquire, and Colonel Charles Egerton.

Gentlemen,

The Durbar have appointed on their Part Gunneish Hurry, and Tookajee Holcar and Mhadjee Scindia on their Part Apajee Savajee, to see the different Articles in the late Agreement performed; they bring with them the requisite Letters from your Durbar and from these Sudars; and they further desire one from me to introduce them to you, and signify their being the Persons so appointed.

In the Articles of Durbar Expences, which formed Part of the late Stipulation for the unmolested March of the Army to Bombay, it was settled, that a Thousand Rupees should be paid to Chubars, &c. belonging to the Durbar of Mhadjee Scindia, and the like Sum to the Durbar Servants of Nanah Furneeze; you will please to pay the whole Amount immediately to Apajee Savajee, who
REP. VI.

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is

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

; responsible to them; and for the other Sums settled for such Service, I could wish the Notes should it possible be returned to me.

Madjee Scindia sent Yesterday to acquaint me, that as he was Security to the Durbar for the due Performance of the late Stipulations, he desired that Mr. Stewart and I would accompany him wherever he went. The Change is very agreeable to me in every Shape, as he treats us with great Civility and Attention; and the cultivating a proper Connexion with him seems to me the only Mode to retrieve the sad Sacrifices we have been compelled to make in capitulating for the safe and unmolested Return of our Army to Bombay. Whatever he may have to propose I believe will be through Appajee Savajee, who seems to possess much of his Confidence, and to whom I would therefore venture to propose a particular Attention should be shewn, keeping every Thing that he may propose or mention a Secret from the Agent of the Durbar.

I could wish that a Pr^r of Pattamars should be sent me as soon as possible to dispatch with any Advices I may have to send. I am, with Respect,

Gentlemen,

Camp near Tullegaon,
19th January 1779.

Your most obedient humble Servant,
W. G. Farmer.

Friday, 22d. This Morning Mr. Carnac and Colonel Egerton took their Leave of the Army, and set out for Panwell, where they arrived about Noon, and reached Bombay the same Evening.

It escaped us to notice under the 16th Instant, that we found the prevailing Custom of giving Presents amongst the Officers and others of the Durbar, was not to be dispensed with, and that their Expectations were very considerable; we however settled this Charge by Means of Appajee Savajee, for the Sum of 41,000 Rupees to be paid to him on his Arrival at Bombay; and he made himself answerable to the Dependents of the Durbar for this Amount.

Report from Lieutenant Richardson to Colonel Egerton, as noticed in Committee under 11th Instant.

Sir,

Agreeable to your Desire I send you the Information that I received last Night on examining Two Men that Ragoba had sent to Tookajee Holcar. They told me there was no Hope of his joining us till we had beat the Ministerial Army; that Holcar declared himself thoroughly acquainted with our Situation; that our Force did not exceed Four Battalions, and with that Number we could never expect to reduce the Maratta Empire; that his Force added to ours would give us very little more Weight; that by joining Ragoba he risked every Thing, without the smallest Prospect of Advantage to himself: Therefore all that he could promise was to be neutral; and though he might be obliged to bring his Troops into the Field, yet he engaged that they should not fight against Ragoba. I have further to inform you, that in a private Conversation with Ragoba, Two Days ago, he told me he had deceived the Governor, in the Hopes he had given of People joining him; but that he had been deceived himself, and that he was ashamed of it, as he now found he had been led into an Error by false Promises.

I am,

Sir,

Tullagaon,
11th January 1779.

Your most obedient humble Servant,

William Richardson.

Bombay, 22d January 1779.

Minutes of the Consultation held by the Poona Committee at Wurgaon, the 15th January, which Colonel Egerton disavows and protests against; and to authenticate which Mr. Carnac has brought the Evidence of Mr. Sibbald the Secretary, Colonel Hartley, and Mr. Holmes, as per their Letter forwarded in the Packet.

Camp at Wurgaon, 15th January 1779.

At a Committee; P R E S E N T,

John Carnac, Esquire,
Colonel Charles Egerton.

The Committee now meet to take into their serious Consideration the Measures necessary to be immediately pursued to extricate the Army from its present very critical Situation, surrounded as it is by the whole Strength of the Empire, and with only about Ten Days Provisions in Camp.

It is judged necessary to have the Opinion of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, now in Command of the Army, as to the Practicability of effecting our Retreat to Bombay: Who is accordingly called in.

Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn delivers in his written Opinion as entered hereafter.

Colonel Egerton's Opinion being also required, declares his Sentiments are the same as those of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn; that a Retreat in our present Situation is impracticable; and if attempted, the Consequences must be the Loss of the whole Army.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Mr. Carnac is so confident the Army is sufficiently numerous, and so well provided with Artillery, as to be able to force their Way back against all Opposition, if the Officers and Men will do their Duty; that there is no Doubt with him, the Attempt ought to be made at all Events, rather than submit to the Terms prescribed by the Enemy, by which we have no Authority to bind our Employers; and for his own Part, he deems he would much sooner run his Share of the Risk than that they should be complied with. However, as Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn have given it as their positive Opinions that the Troops will not stand, and consequently must be cut to Pieces, Mr. Carnac dares not take upon himself singly to press a Retreat, which it is pronounced will be inevitably attended with Consequences that cannot fail endangering the Preservation of the Settlement; he therefore, however reluctantly and contrary to his own Sentiments, finds himself obliged to concur in the Acceptance of whatever Conditions can be obtained. Allowing therefore that the Opinions of Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn to be well-founded (in which we are given to understand many Officers of the Army concur) there seems to be no other Resource left, but to accept of such Conditions as can be obtained from the Enemy.

Adjourned.

For Colonel Cockburn's Opinion, vide before.

(A true Copy.)

Edw^d Ravencroft,
Sec^r.

Letter from the Presidency of Bombay to the Court of Directors; dated 27th March 1779.

To the Honourable the Secret Committee, &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

1. We had the Honour to address you the 29th December, by the Way of Bushra; and on the 8th of last Month Colo el Capper arrived by that Route with your Commands dated 31st August.

2. It gave us infinite Satisfaction to find by your said Commands, that our Vigilance respecting the Transactions of the French has met with your Approbation; and we flatter ourselves that you will do equal Justice to the Motives on which we undertook the late Expedition in favour of Ragonaut Row, which, we are deeply concerned to acquaint you, has been brought to a most unsuccessful Conclusion.

3. This Dispatch is intended to convey to you, in the quickest Manner possible, an Account, sufficiently circumstantial, of the unfortunate Affair, accompanied with every necessary Paper, to enable you to form a Judgment of the Conduct of the concerned in this Expedition, and of our present Situation.

4. The Letters from the Board in their Secret Department, dated the 17th of June and 8th of July, and our Letter of the 31st of that Month, Transcripts of all which are in this Packet, will inform you of the Steps which more immediately led to the Resolution we formed on the 21st of July, to pursue all practicable Measures, with the utmost Expedition, for placing Ragoba in the Regency at Poona; and under N° 1 we now transmit a Copy at length of our Proceedings on that Day, in order the more fully to explain the Grounds upon which we acted.

5. So joined to the Minutes of the 21st July, is a Copy of the Answer delivered by the Poona Durbar, upon Nanah Fumere being reinstated in the Administration, to the Paper of Demand, presented by Mr. Moslyn, as mentioned in the Letter above referred to, dated 17th June.

6. The first Letter we received from Mr. Lewis at Poona, after we had taken our Resolutions, advised us that Moraba had been seized by Madjee Scindia, and that Tookjee Holcar had been obliged to deliver up his Duran, and Two'ot his Officers, to Nanah, who together with Scindia had appointed another Duran for Holcar, and that every one, whether Brann or O'Fer, who had joined Moraba, had also been seized, and amongst the rest Bucheba Pronder; Scindia was soon after induced, by a Present of Three Lacks of Rupees from Nannah, to deliver Moraba into his Charge, who immediately sent his Prisoner into the Fort of Ashmednagur; and Buchebah was likewise confined in another Fort belonging to Nannah.

7. On the 1st of July Mont^t. St. Lubin left Poona, and proceeded to Daman, where it was given out he intended to remain, until Nannah discovered whether he was able to fulfil his Engagements, and where we understand he now is.

8. Our Advices from Poona at this Juncture tended to persuade us that Nannah Fumere and Madjee Scindia had the chief Direction of the Government, and that Saccaram Bappoo was not consulted, but even kept under a Degree of Confinement. Scindia's Influence appeared the most predominant; and it was surmised that he had Views to the Enlargement of his own Power at Poona, independent of Nannah, or of Saccaram Bappoo.

9. We were soon after given to understand, that the Poona Durbar had not only refused to grant Dustucks for the Passage of the Bengal Detachment, but sent Orders to the different Officers through whose Districts Colonel Leslie would be obliged to pass, to use every Endeavour to molest and harass him in his March; and the Army at Poona was then said to consist of about 12,000 Men, which was to be dismissed in a few Days, with Orders to assemble again at Deura, or about the Beginning of October, as they could not procure Provender for their Cattle at that Season of the Year.

10. Colonel

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

10. Colonel Leslie appearing to make but a slow Progress in his March, we wrote to him in the most pressing Manner to advance as quick as possible, assuring him that the early Arrival of the Army under his Command would be of the utmost Importance to the honourable Company's Affairs.

11. At this Time Madjee Scindia acquainted Mr. Lewis, that the Ministers had given him full Powers to settle Affairs with the English, and promised to send a Person to Bombay for that Purpose, who accordingly did arrive some Time afterwards; but, as the President lately acquainted us, he did not open himself on the Business for which he was said to be deputed, thinking perhaps that our Connection with Ragoba did not suit his Master's Views.

12. Mr. Lewis also advised, that the Durbar, in order to amuse us, intended sending a Person of Consequence with Proposals to Ragoba; and the President, at our Meeting on the 15th August, reported that Proposals had been made to him verbally, by an Agent for Nannah Furneze, to bring Ragoba into the Government nearly on the same Terms as proposed by Moraba and his Party, which will appear by the Papers annexed to our Proceedings of the 21st of July; but as we had Reason to suspect that every Proposal from that Quarter was insidious, and only meant to amuse us, we returned for Answer to the Agent, that we could not give his Proposals any Consideration, unless they came before us authenticated under the Sicca of Nannah himself; after which we had no farther Overtures on the Part of Nannah Furneze.

13. On the 16th of August we received Advice from Mr. Lewis, that he was informed from very good Authority, that it had been determined by Nannah and Scindia to send Two principal Officers to oppose Colonel Leslie's March; and that Nannah had sent to recall Monsr. St. Lubin from Damaun, where he had resided since the Beginning of July, giving out that he intended employing him against Hyder. We immediately sent this Intelligence to Colonel Leslie, that he might be prepared to take his Measures with the proper Caution and Vigour; and the Chief of Surat advised us, under the 9th of September, that Chokeys had been placed on the Brampore and Ugien Roads, in order to intercept all Letters.

14. Under the 8th September Mr. Lewis advised the President, that he had been informed by the Nabob of Arcot's Vackel, that the Killeddar of Ahmednagur Fort, in which Moraba was confined, had not only refused complying with an Order from Nannah for delivering that Fort to Scindia, but had seized some Treasure to a great Amount belonging to Nannah, and declared he acted in Behalf of Ragoba. The Vackel further added, that though Moraba was not absolutely Master of the Killas, yet he and the Killeddar understood one another perfectly; and that it was entirely by the Advice of the former the latter had acted. Mr. Lewis closes his Letter with these Words: " Not a Man is yet come in, and the few who remained here belonging to Hurry Punt's Army are so very unfortunate for their Arrears of Pay, that the poor Man is afraid of stirring out of House." In a Letter to us, dated 24th September, he says, " Purlo Ram Bose is still here, not being able to raise a Man for Want of Money, which the Government is either unable or unwilling to advance him."

15. In the last mentioned Letter, Mr. Lewis acquaints us, that on 20th September, a Frenchman arrived at Poona, with Letters for Nannah, but notwithstanding his utmost Endeavours, he could not learn until the Night before the Date of his Letter, who the Frenchman was, or from whence he came; when he was informed it was Monsieur Le Roy from Surat. This was one of the Gentlemen mentioned in the Secret Letter of the 15th January 1778, to have been landed on Choul from Pondicherry, and he now brought Letters to Nannah from Monsieur St. Lubin, with whom he had a Meeting at Damaun, and from Monsieur Briancourt, the French Consul at Surat; the Contents of which Mr. Lewis learnt were to desire Nannah not to listen to any Terms of Accommodation with the English, at least for One Month, as he made no Doubt the Assistance promised by Monsieur St. Lubin would arrive by that Time.

16. On the 27th August we received the first Advice from the Governor General and Council, of their having deputed Mr. Elliot to the Court of Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar, with full Instructions to negotiate and conclude a Treaty with that Chief, acquainting us no farther with the Object of their intended Treaty, than expressing their Opinion in general Terms, that an Alliance with him might be attended with the greatest Utility, in providing for the Defence of the Honourable Company's Possessions in the present War. They desired us to correspond with Mr. Elliot, and to advise him of any Occurrences that may effect the general political Interests of the Company's Settlements and of our own in particular, telling us, that the Success of the Measures entrusted to Mr. Elliot, must in a great Measure depend upon their present Secrecy; that he would however send us such Articles as he might agree to with the Raja, and in the mean Time, to prevent any Step of a contrary Tendency on our Part, they request we would refrain from forming any Engagement of a Nature hostile to the Government at Poona, except such as might appear absolutely necessary for the Defence of our own Possessions.

17. From the very general Information the Governor General and Council gave us of their projected Alliance with Moodajee Boosla, we could not form any Judgment in what Manner this Presidency might be affected thereby, nor did it strike us that we could receive either Injury or Benefit from the Raja of Berar, unless he should assert his Claim to the Rajathip of the Maratta Empire, to which he has some Pretensions, and restore the ancient Form of the Maratta Government. We did not pretend to judge what Advantage a Connection with him might afford to your Bengal Provinces to which his Country is contiguous, but so far as we might venture an Opinion, we conceived them so little liable to Danger, that an Alliance with Moodajee Boosla merely

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

for their Security, so far as he could contribute to it, which appeared by their Letter to be the Object of Mr. Elliot's Deputation, did not seem to be a Consideration equivalent to the Injury your general Interest would sustain, were we to forego the Prosecution of the Plan resolved on the 21st July.

18. These were the Sentiments we expressed on the 31st August, when this Letter came under Consideration; and as we were then every Day in Expectation of Advices from Europe by the Way of Suez, which would place us at a Certainty with respect to the War with France, we did not think it proper to take any decisive Resolution for the Prosecution of the intended Measures, though the Necessity thereof still continued to strike us in the most forcible Manner.

19. On the 9th September Mr. William Moore arrived from Suez, having left London 16th June, and Marseilles the 2d July. By him we received Intelligence next to a Certainty, that the Count D'Estaing's Squadron was gone to America, and that Admiral Byron had failed in Pursuit of him, nor had we any Reason to apprehend the French intended sending any Armament to India this Season.

20. On the 27th following we received a Letter from the Governor General and Council, dated 17th August, in which they acquainted us, That they had approved our Resolution of the 21st July, and authorized us to assist Ragoba with a military Force to conduct him to Poona, and to establish him in the Regency there, on the following express Provisions:

First, That it do not interfere with any Engagement formed with Moodajee Boosla by Mr. Elliot, and previous Notice to us given.

Second, That our latest Advices from Europe shall be equal to an Assurance that the Force required for this Service may be spared without endangering the Safety of Bombay, in the Event of a French Invasion.

Third, That the Engagement we might form with Ragoba himself or Moraba, and his Associates, be not contrary to those concluded with Moodajee by Mr. Elliot, and noticed to us, nor of a hostile Tendency to the Government of Berar.

21. On the 30th, we received Advice from Colonel Leslie, that he had on the 15th August left Chatterpore, or Chunderpore as it is called in the Maps, where he had remained on Account of the heavy Rains since 3d July, in order to proceed on his March to the Neibuddah, and after Two Days March had arrived at Raje Gur, from whence he dated his Letter the 25th August. By this Letter it appeared he had had a slight Skirmish with the Troops of one of the Bundella Chiefs, but was in Treaty for a Pacification, and at the same Time taking Measures for crossing a River between him and the Enemy, that if drawn to that Extremity, he might by dispersing them secure his March from further molestation.

22. We have now brought our Detail down to the 12th October, and Matters were circumstanced as stated in the foregoing Sheets, when Mr. Carnac delivered in a Minute, urging the Danger of losing any further Time, and pressing us immediately to undertake the Measures resolved on under the 21st July.

23. Before we came to any Resolution on Mr Carnac's Minute, we thought it necessary to take the Advice of Mr. Mostyn in some Points; and that Gentleman being accordingly consulted, gave it strongly as his Opinion, that if we did intend to take any Measures in Favour of Ragoba, the sooner they were undertaken the better, the less Opposition we should meet with, and therefore the greater Certainty of Success; of which indeed, he said, he had not in his own Mind the least Doubt; and upon the Whole he said he did not conceive there could offer a more favourable Crisis than the present; for which he fully explained his Reasons, as will appear by our Proceedings on that Day.

24. After full Consideration of all Circumstances, it was resolved by the Majority of the Committee, Mr. Draper only dissenting thereto, forthwith to carry into Execution the Plan agreed to under the 21st July, for conducting Ragoba to Poona, and placing him in the Regency there, during the Minority of the young Peshwa; and that the necessary Measures for that Purpose be undertaken as soon as possible.

25. That you may have our whole Proceedings on this Subject before you in as small a Compass as possible, we now send in the Packet a Copy of our Minutes from the 12th October to the Time the Army left Bombay, and the Treaty was executed by Ragoba, collected in One Paper, under N° 2.

26. Mr. Draper's Reasons for not concurring in the Resolution for immediately putting our Plan into Execution, will appear at Length in the Paper mentioned in the preceding Paragraph.

27. Our whole Proceedings previous to the Army's leaving Bombay being comprised in that Paper, it appears unnecessary to repeat them here; and we chearfully submit them to your Candour and Judgment.

28. For our future Guidance we must request your Opinion and Instructions on the Point debated at our Meeting of the 7th November, whether Two Members of the Committee can be detached from the Presidency at the same Time, upon any temporary Service; and whether the Two remaining Members are in their Absence competent to form a Select Committee.

29. Every Argument that was advanced on either Side of the Question is contained in the Extract from our Proceedings.

30. Under N° 3, we transmit a Copy of the Treaty as executed by Ragoba.

31. To avoid dwelling the Extract of our Proceedings, we send in a separate Number, Copy of a Letter from the Executors of the late Mr. Will^m Shaw, on the Subject of the Loan to Ragoba, with our Minutes thereon; and we are persuaded, that when you reflect how we were circumstanced with

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Ragoba at the Time, and the flattering Prospect then opening to the Company, you will approve our Determination to discharge the Debt, and not to suffer him to be embarrassed with Demands from the Executors at such a Juncture.

32. Ragoba having afterwards stated his Account with Mr. Shaw's Estate in a different Manner from the Executors, we sent his Statement to them, and demanded them to refund the Overplus according thereto. In Reply to which we received another Letter from them, controverting Ragoba's Statement, and supporting their own. A Copy thereof is annexed to the other Letter. And Ragoba departing a few Days afterwards to join the Army, we had not Time to obtain from him the necessary Proofs, even if he had any to produce, which we much doubt.

33. We hope and trust likewise that, considering how Affairs were then situated, you will approve the Loan of Four Lacks of Rupees, which it was absolutely necessary to make to Ragoba, to enable him to make the necessary Preparations for the Expedition. We also thought it for the Good of the Service to make a further Loan of Rupees 15,000 to Two principal Officers of Ragoba's, to whom we acquainted you, in our Address by the York, we made a Loan of the like Sum when the Resolution in March 1778 took place.

34. We beg Leave to mention that Ragoba's Jewels deposited on executing the Treaty of Surat, are still in our Possession at Bombay.

35. Our Address, 29th December, of which a Triplicate is now inclosed, informed you briefly of the Progress of the Army to that Time; however, to bring their Operations before you in One Point of View, we will begin our Account from the Day the Forces left Bombay.

36. Captain James Stuart, who had been previously sent to Poona to make himself acquainted with the Roads and Passes, embarked from this Place the 22d November, with a Detachment of Grenadier Sepoys and some Light Artillery, as mentioned in the Extract of our Proceedings, and proceeding up Apta River by a Route different from what was taken by the Remainder of the Army, secured the Passage of the Ghauts, and took Post on the Summit of Condella the 25th following, the 3d Day from his leaving Bombay, where he was to remain till joined by the Army.

37. The Remainder of the Forces left Bombay the 23d, and were followed the next Day by Colonel Egerton, who took on him the chief Command. After securing the Fort of Bellapore, which commands the Entrance of Panwell River, the Army proceeded to Panwell, where it arrived the 25th.

38. To prevent, as far as we could, any Diminution from the Strength of the Army, the Fort of Bellapore was soon afterwards garrisoned from Bombay.

39. The Army remained at Panwell the 25th November to the 4th December, waiting the Arrival of their Stores, Provision, Oxen, &c. and employed in clearing the Road in Front for their Advance. On the 4th they began their March, and on the 13th arrived at Campoly, at the Foot of the Ghauts. Here they were joined by Messrs. Carnac and Molty, who, with Colonel Egerton, formed a Committee for the general Conduct of the Expedition, and the Settlement of the Government at Poona. Their Commission and Instructions are entered at Length in their Diary now transmitted.

40. Mr. Molty only remained a few Days at Campoly, when he was obliged to return to Bombay by a violent Disorder, which put an End to his Life on the First of January. In him you lost a very faithful, valuable Servant; but it was an inexpressible Misfortune to be deprived of his Services just at the very Time when they were so particularly requisite for the Accomplishment of a Plan which he had been so very instrumental in bringing to bear.

41. At a Meeting of the Poona Committee held at Campoly on the 26th December, Mr. Carnac delivered in a Minute, remarking on the slow Progress hitherto made by the Army, and the Time lost by making a Carriage Road up the Ghauts, instead of carrying up the Stores by Hand. This Minute will appear under its proper Date in the Poona Diary; and with the other Papers hereafter mentioned, we transmit a Copy of Colonel Egerton's Reply, delivered since his Return, and of a Letter from the Commandant of Artillery, and the other Papers on the same subject, which we beg Leave to submit to your Judgment.

42. At length, on 23d December, the Troops and Artillery were got up to Condilla, at the Top of the Ghaut, but some further Time was employed in bringing up the Commissary's Stores, and completing the Provisions to a Stock for 25 Days.

43. Till this Time there had been no Appearance of an Enemy, but on the 22d they made a trifling and unsuccessful Attack on a small Party of Ragoba's Sepoys, which with Three of his Guns had been posted in Front of Captain Stewart's Detachment. They were however beat off by Ragoba's People, with the Assistance only of Two of our Artillery Officers to point their Guns. Captain Stewart judged that the Number of the Enemy exceeded Ten thousand Horse and Foot.

44. From this Time the Enemy daily cannonaded our Camp at a Distance, with a very trifling Effect till the 31st, when, after they had withdrawn their Guns, a small Party concealed in a Gully threw some Rockets, one of which mortally wounded Lieutenant Colonel Cay, who died at Bombay the 14th January.

45. After several small Movements towards the Edge of the Plain, the Army, equipped with a Stock of Provisions for 25 Days, began the March for Poona on the 4th January, having left a fortified Post at the Head of the Ghauts to secure the Pass, under the Command of Lieutenant Fraser. On the same Day they met with a very heavy Loss by the Death of Captain Stuart, who was a most active, gallant, and judicious Officer, and possessed of the true Military Spirit.

46. On the 5th the Army halted.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

47. On the 6th the Army resumed its March, and in the Prosecution thereof the Guns of the Enemy opened on the Line from a Wood in Front, and a large Party of Horse seemed inclined either to take them in Blank or Rear; they were however prevented from both, driven from the Wood into the Plain, and afterwards from an Eminence which our Troops took Possession of.

This Party sent to harry them the Committee were informed was commanded by Bhim Row Ponja, and might consist of 5000 Horse, with Seven Guns.

48. On the same Day Colonel Egerton represented in Committee, that having borne up as long as he could against an Illness with which he had been for some Time past afflicted, he found himself under the Necessity of acquainting them, that the Surgeon Major was of Opinion, that the Fatigues of a Campaign co-operating with his Indisposition would certainly endanger his Life; and that at any rate he could not soon hope to have the requisite Strength to attend properly to the many Avocations of a Commander in Chief in the Field; for which Reasons he requested Permission to resign the Command of the Army to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, and to proceed immediately to Bombay. He accordingly did set off, but was obliged to return upon the Receipt of Intelligence that a large Party of the Enemy's Horse were in the Conkan; the temporary Command of the Army however remained with Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, though Colonel Egerton continued to act as a Member of the Poona Committee.

49. It was at this Time judged necessary to promote Major Dagon of the Artillery to the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel, in order to provide a fit Officer to hold the Second Command of the Army, or to succeed to the chief Command, in case of Accidents to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn.

50. The Poona Committee at the same Meeting expressed their Disappointments on the Difference between the Expectations they were flattered with on their Arrival at the Top of the Gauts, and the actual State of Affairs. Instead of Hollkar and many other Chiefs of Rank and Respect, who it was hoped would have joined them with a numerous Body of Horse immediately on the Appearance there of the Standard of Ragoba, none but a few Mercenaries had yet come in, and Ragoba in a Message to the Committee gave them plainly to understand that he had been deceived, that unless they could convince his Friends of their Safety in joining him by the speedy Defeat of his Enemies, he had no Hope of being joined by any one, and that their Situation would rather prove worse than better as they advanced towards Poona, by being cut off from all Communication with the Conkan, from whence they could then be supplied with Provisions and Stores.

51. Though the Mode adopted by the Enemy of retiring before our Army, and laying waste the Country, seemed to render Ragoba's Reasoning apparently just, the Committee still hoped that as they advanced towards Poona, Hollkar, on whose Junction there might be some Dependance, would be enabled and encouraged to keep firm to the Promises he had made through the late Mr. Mostyn; and they further observed, there was too much Reason to apprehend that Ragoba, trusting to subdue every one by our Arms, had not only neglected the fit Means to conciliate the respectable Chiefs to his Cause, but had acted in such a Manner as would naturally tend to unite them against him; in Proof of which they adduced an Information given by the Agent of Moraba then in our Camp, that Ragoba had secretly sent Directions to the Killekar of Ahmednagur, not to release Moraba till he got further positive Orders from him on his Arrival at Poona.

52. The Army continued to advance till the 9th January, when it arrived at Pellagom, a considerable Town about 18 Miles from the Summit of the Gauts, and 16 Miles from Poona. Tellagon was burnt and abandoned before our Troops arrived: and here they found a very numerous Army assembled to oppose them, under the Orders of the Ministers Saccaram and Nannah, Madjee Scindia, Lookjee Hollkar, and other principal Officers.

53. The Committee finding so general an Opposition to Ragoba, and no Hopes of being joined by any considerable Chief, were of Opinion that the Plan of establishing Ragoba in the Regency of the Maratta Empire would be impracticable, without the immediate Co-operation of a respectable Party in that State; and considering likewise the total Improbability of procuring any further Supply of Provisions, or even of securing their own Stock as they advanced, came to the Resolution to fall back with the Army so far as might be requisite to secure their Communication with the Conkan, or the Country below the Gauts. The Measure taken by the Committee, previous to and in Consequence of this Resolution and Situation of the Army at the Time, are fully described in their Proceedings under the 9th, 10th, and 11th January, to which we beg Leave to refer.

54. At this Place the Committee received Information that a Body of Horse belonging to Moraba had marched into the Conkan to join Ragoba.

55. The Army accordingly began to fall back on the Night of the 11th; and the Enemy having by some Means got Intelligence of their moving, attacked them on the March before Day-light, which they continued with great Vigour until Four o'Clock in the Afternoon, before our Troops could make their Retreat good to Burrugom or Wargau, which they effected at last with much Difficulty and Danger. The Committee's Account of the Action is entered on their Diary under the 13th January; and Colonel Cockburn's is transmitted with the Copies of his other Letters during the Service under N° 9. Both Accounts agree that a Part of the Baggage fell into the Enemy's Hands, and that the Troops during the whole Attack behaved with the greatest Intrepidity. The Particulars of the Losses sustained in the Action will appear by the Return annexed to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn's Letter; and in killed, wounded, and missing, of Artillery, Infantry, and Sepoys, and Artillery Lascars, amounted to 362.

56. Some straggling Sepoys and Lascars having escaped from the Action to the Head of the Gauts,

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

brought the most dreadful Accounts of the entire Destruction of the whole Army; upon which Lieutenant Fraser immediately abandoned his Post. We had the same alarming Accounts, which filled us for some Days with great Apprehensions.

57. On the 13th, the Day after the Action, the following Minute appears in the Committee's Diary :

- " At a Committee held to deliberate relative to Overtures for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay;—No Minutes taken, being in a severe Cannonade, and a Number of Persons standing round.
- " Letter to the Pashwa, sent by Ram Sing.
- " D^r from D^r, in Reply.
- " D^r to D^r, at Night."

58. These imperfect Entries the Committee afterwards explained were owing to their Separation from their Secretary, Mr. Farmer.

59. On the 14th Mr. Farmer was sent to the Maratta Camp to propose an Accommodation, which the Committee judged might be brought about by Ragoba's going over to Scindia, which he seemed determined to do, rather than run the Risk of another Day's March. The Message sent to the Durbar by Mr. Farmer will appear at length on the Poona Committee's Diary.

60. The Answer given by the Durbar to Mr. Farmer's Message was simply this: " That if we wished to remain at Peace with them, Ragonaut Row must be delivered up, and then we may return quietly, otherwise we might do as we please."

61. The Committee wrote to Mr. Farmer in Reply, That all Difficulty of Accommodation was removed by Ragoba's Design of going over to Madjee Scindia, and that they expected in consequence proper Securities from the Durbar for proceeding unmolested on their March.

62. On the 15th appears a Letter from Mr. Farmer, containing the Result of his Conference with the Durbar, on his making known Ragoba's Determination of going over to Madjee Scindia. Their Language then was, that exclusive of this, a new Treaty must be made on the Spot between the English and the Maratta State, the one made by Colonel Upton being entirely broke by the Invasion of their Country. Mr. Farmer in a few Words conveys a very expressive Idea of the Sentiment entertained by the Durbar of the Advantage at which they held our Army. " They seem to feel themselves (he says) in that Situation with respect to us, which the Turkish Vizier felt himself in with respect to Peter the 1st, at the Time the Empress Catherine sent in her Jewels to the Vizier."

63. On the same Day is entered an Opinion, subscribed by Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn then in Command of the Army, with respect to the Practicability of making good their Retreat, which he describes as utterly impossible. He concludes with these Words, " I therefore cannot charge myself to conduct the Army under these Circumstances to Bombay, and Humanity must prompt some other Method than an Attempt to retire in the Face of the whole Strength of the Maratta Empire, with such an Handful of Men, who must in such Case be sacrificed."

64. The Committee directed Mr. Farmer to acquaint the Durbar, in Answer to the further Condition they insisted on, that they demanded what the Committee had no Powers to agree to, the entering into, and concluding Treaties being solely confined to the Governor General and Council; that the only Power left them was to give up the Cause and Person of Ragoba, which done, must certainly put an End to all Disputes between the English and Maratta State. The Committee further desired Mr. Farmer to inform the Durbar, that should they enter into any Treaty they should only deceive them, having no such Powers.

65. All their Applications having been hitherto directed to the Durbar in general, it appeared to the Committee that a Gentleman being sent to Madjee Scindia would be more likely to produce an Accommodation, and Mr. Holmes the Commissary was accordingly deputed with full Powers to settle for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay.

66. In the mean Time the Committee's Letter was delivered to Mr. Farmer in the Durbar, by Apajee Bhow, on the Part of Madjee Scindia: As representing the Durbar, he desired to be informed of the Contents; when Mr. Farmer explained what the Committee had said relative to want of Powers, and desired an Answer to the single Proposition, Whether on the Delivery of Ragoba, Securities would be given for the safe and unmolested Return of the Army to Bombay. After further Argument on the Subject, the Durbar still insisted that a new Treaty should be made, and demanded a true Translation of the Committee's Letter, at the same Time giving Mr. Farmer to understand, that if he did not comply, there were People in the Camp who understood English. Mr. Farmer appeared concerned at this, because the Committee's Declaration seemed to preclude all peaceable Arrangements; but however the Durbar still continue to insist that till a new Treaty was made the English Army must remain where it was.

67. Late in the Evening of the 15th, Mr. Holmes returned from the Maratta Camp, and reported, that he had settled Matters with Madjee Scindia and the rest of the Durbar, for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay, on the only Terms they would hear of, which in short were the Surrender of all the Possessions under this Presidency, acquired since the Reign of Madarow, and the Retirement of the Bengal Army. The Committee however remarked in their Diary, that Madjee Scindia and the whole Durbar could not plead Ignorance of their want of Powers to conclude such a Treaty, they having demanded both a true Explanation and Translation of their Letter to Mr. Farmer, in which they so strongly disclaimed all such Power.

A. P. P E N D I X, N° 130.

68. Under the 16th is entered a Translation of the Treaty, as also of a separate Article in Favour of Madjee Scindia, which Messrs. Farmer and Holmes advised the Committee they were obliged to consent to. A Copy of the Treaty, and of the separate Article, is also transmitted in the Packet, under N° 42.

69. Mr. Carnac has minuted on our Proceedings, that having since his Return perused the Translation of the Treaty and separate Article, he finds them conceived in such Terms, that he should certainly have objected thereto at the Time of Signature, had they been literally explained to him; but that he only understood the Contents in general Terms, and indeed was the more indifferent as to the particular Wording of them, as he always bore in his Mind the Idea that they were of no Validity, and would never be ratified by our Superiors.

70. Mr. Farmer and Lieutenant Charles Stewart were left with Madjee Scindia as Hostages for the performance of the Agreement with him.

71. The Committee delivered to Madjee Scindia's Vackel, a Letter addressed to Colonel Goddard, which does not appear in the Diary, Mr. Farmer not having kept a Copy: The Purport however was to advise him, that the Face of Things was so materially altered since their writing to him last, as to occasion their marching back to Bonibay; and that in consequence of an Agreement entered into by them with the Marattas, they directed him to march back with the Army under his Command to Bengal. This Letter was dated the 16th January. On the 19th the Committee advised Colonel Goddard, that upon Recollection not thinking themselves authorized to give the Order contained in their Letter of the 16th, he was to pay no Regard thereto.

72. On the 17th Mr. Farmer returned to the Maratta Camp with the Papers executed, and a present of a Horse for Madjee Scindia. He came back to our Camp about Noon with a Party of Horse, who were to accompany the Army to Panwell. The Army accordingly began their March on the 17th in the Afternoon, and in Seven Days reached Panwell, from whence they were transported to Bombay.

73. The Select Committee then at Bombay, beg to take Notice in this Place, that the Resolution for retreating, the Difficulties the Army was brought into, and the Negotiation commenced in consequence, were transacted and concluded before we had any knowledge thereof, the Communication with the Army being lost by the Enemy.

74. The Poona Committee on making the Agreement found themselves under a Necessity, in Compliance with the Custom of the East, to make Presents amongst the Officers of the Durbar, to the Amount of Rupees 41,000, for which Notes were given.

75. Under the 20th January are entered on the Poona Committee's Diary the Orders we gave under the 11th, on being apprized of their Situation and Prospects when they arrived at Mendhurna Plain, as described therein under the 6th; which Orders, owing to the Stoppage of the Roads, did not reach them till the Army was on its Return.

76. Before the Committee arrived at Panwell, they received a Letter from Mr. Farmer, advising, that Madjee Scindia had acquainted him, that as he (Madjee Scindia) was Security to the Durbar for the due Performance of the late Subjugations, he desired that Mr. Farmer and Lieutenant Stewart would accompany him wherever he went; and Mr. Farmer added, the Charge was very agreeable in every Respect, as he treated them with great Civility and Attention.

77. We have now brought the Account of this Expedition to a Conclusion; in which we have confined ourselves to a mere Narrative of Facts, as stated in the Committee's Diary and Colonel Egerton's Letters to the President, avoiding an Opinion, or entering into Particulars more than necessary to connect our Account, and give you a general Idea of the Matters represented. Any Judgment offered by us might be imputed to the Feelings naturally arising from the Disappointment of a Scheme which we had promoted with so much Zeal, and by the Event of which we, Mr. Draper excepted on Account of his Disent, are ourselves liable to be affected; and it has for these Reasons appeared the most equitable and impartial Method to tend only a general Statement to you and to the Governor General and Council, accompanied with every Voucher that can tend to illustrate the Subject, and make your Information as compleat as possible, leaving to you to form your own Judgment from the Materials before you, to what Causes the Failure of the Expedition is to be attributed, and on whom Censure ought to fall.

78. In pursuance of this Plan we shall lay before you in Order, the several Letters and Papers that have been delivered in relative to this Expedition, the Particulars of which will be mentioned in the Sequel of this Addit., as many of them are connected with Matters not yet mentioned, which have taken place since the Expedition.

79. In the 21st Paragraph our Advices, brought down to the 30th September, left Colonel Leslie at Rajegur the 25th August, and, as we then thought, preparing to continue his March. We had no further Accounts of the Bengal Army till the 28th October, when we received a Letter from Colonel Goddard, dated the 4th of that Month; by which we observed with Concern that the Army still remained at Rajegur. Colonel Goddard therein advised, that Colonel Leslie had died on the preceding Day; and that the Command having thereby devolved on him, he should march from that Place in Three or Four Days. In our Reply to this Letter, dated the 13th November, we repeated the Directions before given to Colonel Leslie, for the Army to march towards Poona with all possible Expedition; at the same Time giving to understand that his early Arrival might be very essential to the Success of the important Scheme we had then in Agitation. By his next Letter, dated the 31st October, and received the 30th November, we found him advanced to Kemlassy, on the Road to the

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

Nerbudda; and after the Treaty had been concluded, and our Forces had actually landed on the Continent, we then more fully explained our Plan, and again urged him to pursue his March with all possible Expedition.

80. On the 18th December, whilst our Army lay at the Foot of the Ghauts, we received Advices from Lieutenant Colonel Goddard in Twenty-two Days, dated at Bopaul, within 18 Cols of the Nerbudda, which he hoped to cross in Five or Six Days, and in Two Days more to enter the Territories of the Berar Rajah.

81. The same Day we received a Letter from the Governor General and Council, dated the 15th October, advising us of their having removed Colonel Leslie from the Command, on Account of the little Progress the Detachment had made under him, and of his manifest Disobedience of the positive Order, in concluding a Treaty with Two Chiefs of the Bundelcund Country; that they had appointed Colonel Goddard to the chief Command, and ordered him to prosecute his March without further Loss of Time into Berar, where, on his Arrival, he was to apply to Moodjee Boosla, and that Chief should agree to join him with a sufficient Body of Forces for the Purpose, he was to continue his Route in Conjunction with them, and to obey all Orders he might receive from us, but if he should not have received any fresh Directions for his March, and if the Rajah should decline or refuse to grant his Assistance, they had then vested in Colonel Goddard a discretionary Power to suspend his Proceedings.

82. The Governor General and Council to our great Satisfaction added, that if the Plan we had revolved in July to carry into Execution in September, for the Restoration of Ragoba, still subsisted, or if we should have formed any other for the same End, consistently with the Terms which they had prescribed for their Assent to that Measure; or if we should judge a strong Reinforcement immediately and indispensably necessary to insure the Safety of Bombay against a French Invasion; and should deem it requisite and advisable in either of those Cases to command the Detachment at all Hazards to proceed further towards Bombay, even without a Junction of the Troops of any Power in Alliance with the Company; they gave us the Power in such Cases, and in such only, to require Colonel Goddard to advance, but in all others, to give him Notice of our Intentions, and to leave him to act under their Directions.

83. They likewise acquainted us of the Death of Mr. Elliot, and that as the Rajah had expressed great Satisfaction at the Overtures made for a Connection with him, by that Deputate they concluded he would take an active Part in prosecuting the intended Negotiation, either by deputing a proper Minister to them on his Part, or by soliciting an Alliance on such Terms as might prove a general Advantage to the Company's Possessions; for these Reasons, they did not mean to appoint any Person to succeed Mr. Elliot, until their Advices from the Raja should enable them to determine on the Expediency of the Measure.

84. Upon Receipt of this Letter, though we concluded that Colonel Goddard having by the Time received fresh Instructions from us, would according to the Clause in his Orders from Bengal continue to advance to this Coast, yet, to prevent all Disappointment, and that he might be at no Loss in his Proceedings, we immediately acquainted him in the Terms of the Letter from Bengal, that we deemed it requisite and advisable the Detachment under his Command should move forwards towards Bombay; and therefore directed him to advance according to his former Orders, even without a Junction of the Troops of any Power in Alliance with the Honourable Company; hoping, that the Movement of our Forces would facilitate his March in the same Degree that the Advance of his Detachment would lessen the Opposition to our Forces.

85. On the 28th December we had the Pleasure to receive a Letter from Colonel Goddard, dated the 6th, advising of his having crossed the Nerbudda, and his being encamped at Huffergabad on the South Bank of that River. He acquainted us, that he should halt there a few Days to determine his future Route, and that in the intervening Time, he hoped to be able to prevail on Moodjee Boosla to join him with a Body of Troops, by which Means the Inconveniences he might otherwise expect, respecting his Supplies of Provisions, would be obviated.

86. In these Letters, Colonel Goddard further urged the Expediency of immediately taking some vigorous Measures to counteract the Opposition of the Ministers to his March, and to cause a Diversion in order to prevent their employing their whole Force against him, which he was apt to believe would be strengthened with that of the Nizam.

87. The March of our Forces had already anticipated his Wishes in that Respect; and on Reference to our Proceedings of the 12th October you will please to observe, that the facilitating the March of the Bengal Detachment was a strong Consideration with us for immediately undertaking the Expedition. Matters now wore rather a pleasing Aspect; our Troops had just ascended the Ghauts, and we had Reason to expect that Colonel Goddard would soon make good his March and that every Step both Armies advanced, would be a mutual Advantage to both, by dividing the Efforts of the Enemy.

88. We have already acquainted you how fatally we have been disappointed in the Hopes we entertained from the Advance of our Troops; and Colonel Goddard received Advice of the Miscarriage of our Army a short Time before we had been put under such Restrictions, that we began to be apprehensive he would lose the Advantage of the Exertion we had made, and that we should even be entirely deprived of the Services of his Detachment, at least for this Season; for on the 10th January we received a Letter from the Governor General and Council, dated the 23d November, referring to a Letter of the 10th of that Month, which we have never yet received, wherein they had informed us

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

of their having vested Colonel Goddard with full Powers to conclude a Treaty with Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar, on the Grounds of their Instructions to the late Mr. Elliott; a Copy of which was said to be enclosed, but which has likewise never come to Hand, so that we are to this Moment totally uninformed as to the particular Points of the intended Alliance with that Chief. But the Governor General and Council acquainted us, that the Event of that Negotiation was likely to cause a very speedy and essential Change in the Designs and Operations of the Detachment; and as the Plan which they had chosen to supply the Place of that originally recommended by us, rendered it necessary that they should retain in their own Hands the Means of effecting it, they therefore revoked the Power which they had given us in their Letter of the 15th October, and should direct the commanding Officer of the Detachment to obey only such Orders as he might hereafter receive from them. This Letter was transmitted by Colonel Goddard, who advised that he should regulate his Conduct accordingly.

89. They further acquainted us, that although the Circumstances into which they had been thrown by the Failure of the Plan for which the Detachment was originally formed, had rendered it necessary to make that Alteration in the Controul and Direction of it, their Intention was not entirely to withdraw the Services of the Detachment from the Support of any Measures we might have formed in Reliance on them, if such Measures should not prove incompatible with the Instructions given to Colonel Goddard, and with the Engagements which he might conclude in consequence of them; that they should therefore leave him still Subject to our Instructions under those Provisions; and they requested we would communicate to them such Points as we might judge proper to be included in the Operations to be concerted with the Rajah of Berar.

90. We have recited at Length the Letter from the Governor General and Council, and when our Situation at the Time is considered, you may easily conceive the Perplexity we were thrown into by the Intelligence it conveyed to us; we had then just received the Advices from the Army entered in the Poona Committee's Diary under the 6th January, when Affairs above the Ghauts seemed not to wear an Appearance as we had expected, and the Assistance of the Bengal Detachment, on which we had always depended, appeared absolutely necessary on that Account; exclusive of this Consideration, we reflected that there was only an Interval of little more than Four Months left him to perform his March before the Monsoon would set in, and that it was highly proper he should reach this Coast before that Time, in order to secure Bombay in case of an Attack by the French at the Opening of the Season, which it might be out of his Power to perform if any considerable Time was employed in the Negotiations. Uninformed as we were as to the Object thereof, or of the Plan laid to be substituted in lieu of ours, we could not judge what Points it might be necessary to include respecting this Presidency in the Alliance to be concluded with Moodajee Boosla; all we could do in such a Situation was to explain to Colonel Goddard our Views in the Engagement we had formed with Ra-goba, and to send him a Copy of the Treaty, that he might judge how far our Measures were compatible with his Instructions from Bengal; and we at the same Time strongly urged to him the Necessity of his advancing to this Coast as soon as possible, explaining the Difficulties we should be under in case he should not think himself at Liberty to comply with our Requisition.

91. We think it proper to transmit Copies of the Letters we wrote on this Occasion to Colonel Goddard and to the Governor General and Council, which wait on you under N° 5; and lest we should be disappointed in the Arrival of the Bengal Detachment, we desired the Gentlemen at Madras in such Case to give us a Latitude to detain a Part of the Forces destined for the Expedition against Mahé, after that Service should be brought to an Issue.

92. On the 21st January we again found this Detachment returning to its former Destination, Colonel Goddard informing us, under the 3d, from his Camp at Hissengabad, that the Rajah of Berar wished at present to delay the Business that was to have been concluded with him, urging, that our Forces having taken the Field obliged him to wait for Answers from the Governor General and Council to Letters he had wrote them, before he could take any further Steps: That in this Situation he had resolved to march with all Expedition towards Zenor, by the Way of Brampore; but that it would be a Week before he could commence his March, as he was waiting for the Arrival of some Money from Nagpore to pay his Army, then Two Months in Arrears.

93. At this Time we knew no more of the Situation of Affairs above the Ghauts, than that there had been an Action, in which we had suffered some Loss; and that the Army was on the Return to Bombay, after some very disagreeable Compromise; and as in such Circumstances it might be improper and dangerous for Colonel Goddard to proceed to Zenor, and we concluded from his Letter he was then actually on the March, we resolved to send him immediate Orders to direct his Course to Surat; which Order we repeated on the 3d February. By Colonel Goddard's subsequent Letters, we learnt that he had left the Nerbudda the 17th January, and after a March of Eleven Days, exclusive of Three he had halted, Two of which were on account of the Illness and Death of Lieutenant Colonel Fortnom, arrived in the Neighbourhood of Brampore the 30th January, on which Day he received the Letter from the Poona Committee dated the 19th, revoking their Orders of the 16th; which Letter, though delivered to Madjee Scindia, had not then reached Colonel Goddard, which is a remarkable Circumstance, considering that Madjee Scindia, if he had been anxious for the quick Dispatch, could have conveyed the Letter to the Army in less than Half the Time employed by our Patamars. Colonel Goddard left Brampore on the 6th February, and on the 8th received the Letter from the Poona Committee, dated the 16th January, with one from the Durbar to the same Effect; and proceeding without Interruption or Intermission, arrived at Surat the 25th February, after a

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

March performed with wonderful Rapidity from the Time of his leaving the Nerbudda, through a Tract of Country almost unknown, and not less in Extent than 500 Miles; and for which much Merit is due to Colonel Goddard.

94. We trust to your Candour and attentive Consideration of all Circumstances relative to this Detachment, that you will not, drawing your Conclusion from the Event, impute Error or Temerity to us in undertaking the Expedition before its Arrival. We had beheld its slow Progress, and the Obstructions it met with under Colonel Leslie, and could foresee the increased Dangers and Difficulties it would have to encounter in the Passage through the Maratta Dominions, which, considering the Temper of the Durbar, might be termed a hostile Country. We therefore judged, and we conceive with good Reason, that by fending our Forces into the Field, we should facilitate the Approach of Colonel Goddard. We hope it will still be allowed, that this Measure did at least produce that ~~good~~ Effect; and that by drawing off the Enemy's Forces to another Quarter, we secured an unmolested March to the Bengal Army, whose Arrival has insured Safety to our Possessions, and put us in a Condition to act as Circumstances may render necessary. At the same Time, in Justice to Colonel Goddard, we must observe, that he made the proper Use of the Advantage given him, and by his fine Activity, did not allow the Enemy Time to take Measures for giving him any material Interruption, even if such had been their Intention, after the Convention of Worgaum.

95. If our Army had been found unequal single to the Accomplishment of the Undertaking we had engaged in, and not sufficiently formidable, whether with respect to Numbers or the Vigour of Operations, to give Confidence to the Partizans of Ragoba to declare openly in his Favour, we could entertain a Doubt but that it would be able to keep the Field against any Country Enemy, in which Opinion, we are persuaded, we shall have the Suffrage of all Persons convestant in India's Service; and a Space less than a Month from the Conclusion of their Operations would have brought Colonel Goddard so near, that the Enemy must have divided their Force, Poona being nearly the same Distance from Brampore as Satat; and a Junction once effected, the Expedition might have been brought to a happy Issue.

96. It is impossible to say whether Colonel Goddard could have made his Way through so large a Tract of Country adverse to his March, had it not been for the Diversion made by our Troops, which took up the whole Attention of the Enemy; but this being a Matter not decided by Experiment, we shall submit to your Judgment.

97. Had we been apprized in Time that the Negotiation with Moodajee was to affect the Operations of the Bengal Detachment, or that in the intended Alliance with him was comprehended a Plan to supply the Place of the one originally recommended by us, and to answer the same Purpose; we certainly should not have prosecuted our Plan for the Restoration of Ragoba, and thereby have avoided the Confusion inseparable from a complicate Scheme, when so great a Distance lays between the Parties. But we appeal to you, whether from the Letters from Bengal of the 17th of August and 15th October, we had any Reason to entertain such an Idea of the Negotiation with Moodajee? on the contrary, in the last of those Letters the Governor General and Council, after they knew of the Restraint laid on Moraba, and the Members of his Party, gave us Reason to conclude, that they depended on us for the Accomplishment of those grand Objects we both had in View, by their giving us the Controul over Colonel Goddard's Detachment, whether the Plan formed in July existed, or whether we had formed any other for the same End, consistently with Terms they had preferred for their Assent."

98. We never viewed the Negotiation with the Rajah of Betar in a Light so intimately affecting this Presidency, till the Receipt of the Letter from Bengal on the 10th January, and then it was too late for us to retract; and as we could not conceive it to be very material to the Company, whether the same Purpose was effected by an Alliance with Moodajee Boosla, or by a Connection with Ragonath Row, we immediately urged Colonel Goddard to advance to the Support of our Meant in Favour of Ragoba, which he saw the Propriety of complying with; Moodajee having made Plea therefrom to protract the intended Negotiation with him. With respect to the political Sentiments of Moodajee, Colonel Goddard observed, that he did not think him partial to the Cause of Ragonath Row, but he was convinced he was amicably inclined to the English.

99. We shall now proceed to a Detail of our Proceedings after the Return of the Troops from the Expedition.

100. At our first Meeting, held on the 29th January, when Messrs. Carnac and Egerton resumed their Seats, the Diary of the Poona Committee was laid before us, and read through with Attention in the Course of which Colonel Egerton made sundry Remarks, as noticed in the Copy of our Proceedings on that Day, and in particular protested against and disallowed the Minutes of a Meeting noticed in the Diary to have been held by the Poona Committee on the 15th January, alledging, that to the best of his Knowledge no Meeting was held on that Day. The several Papers delivered respecting this Point are in the Packet; and when the Perusal of the Diary was finished, the President laid before us a Minute, stating generally, that the Causes of the Failure of the Expedition might be Matter of future Consideration, but that no Time ought to be lost in determining on the Means necessary for supporting and retrieving our Affairs; for which Purpose he meant soon to desire another Meeting, when he hoped to be able to propose some Plan of Conduct for extricating us from the Difficulties of our present Situation. In this Minute, after giving due Praise to the Bravery and Merit of our Troops on the late Service, who he doubted not, under proper Conduct, would be fully sufficient to secure your Possessions under this Presidency against all Attempts of the most formidable.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

able Country Enemy. He proceeded to shew the Necessity of keeping up the gallant Spirit of the Army, which could not be done without distinguishing those whose Behaviour had done them honour, and marking the Men who had been wanting in their Duty, and whose Example could not fail of corrupting our Military Establishment in all its Branches. He noticed the Misbehaviour of Three Subaltern Officers who were to be tried by a General Court Martial; but observed he did not think an Example made of them sufficient, and that he had accordingly intimated to Colonel Egerton on his Arrival, that his Conduct, as well as Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn's, as Officers, appeared to him so far impeached, that he judged it would be proper for them both to decline acting in any Military Character. That Colonel Egerton having thought proper to insist on taking the command of the Garrison, unless a formal Charge was delivered against him; the President did then deliver in a formal Charge against him, and against Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, for refusing to charge themselves with conducting the Army from Worgaum to Bombay; grounding the Accusation in the written Opinion subscribed by Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, in which Colonel Egerton did in the same Day declare (and again at this Meeting) he entirely concurred.

101. The President then giving it as his fixed Opinion, that nothing could justify Officers in their station for giving in such an Opinion of the Troops under their Command but an open Mutiny in the Army, declared he would not consent to their continuing in the Command. That their own Orders of Thanks to the Troops for their Behaviour on the 12th, sufficiently shewed how totally void of Foundation the Opinion was, "That our Troops would not stand a single Attack;" yet that the fatal Influence and Infection of such Opinions, when adopted and avowed by the Superiors in Command, were well known, and would not suffer us to wonder if Sentiments of the like Kind did gain some Ground under such a Sanction. That this however could not be admitted as an Extenuation, much less as a Justification of the Conduct of Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, and was besides a Circumstance to big with Danger, that they could not be allowed to support their extraordinary and unsoldier-like way of thinking, by the Authority of the inferior Officers. Thus circumstanced, the President observes he should think himself justified in moving for suspending both those Officers from the Service; but that they might prevent that Extremity, if they chose to decline all Military Duty, till their Conduct, together with the rest of the late Transactions, had been stated to Bengal, and the Opinion and Advice of the Governor General and Council with regard to them were received. The President acquainted us his Intention was to be guided by the Sentiments they might express as to the Propriety of continuing Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn in the Service, or the Expediency of dismissing them from it.

102. If they did not chuse to accept this Proposal, the President moved, that they might both be immediately suspended the Service.

103. It was agreed this Minute should lie on the Table; and at our next Meeting on the 1st of February, the President acquainted us, that Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn had declined all Military Duty till our further Orders; and he then desired the Sense of the Committee might be taken, whether according to your Commands, Colonel Egerton was entitled to hold his Seat in the Select Committee, since he had relinquished all military Command?

104. It was voted by the Majority and resolved accordingly, that Colonel Egerton had no Right, and was not to be considered as a Member of the Select Committee, until he might resume the Exercise of his Office as Commander in Chief; and he in consequence was superseded.

105. A Copy of our Proceedings on that Day is transmitted in the Packet, wherein is stated at Length the Opinion of each Member on the Question of Colonel Egerton's Right to his Seat in the Committee; and we also transmit a Copy at Length, of the Governor's Minute, and of the Correspondence between him and Colonel Egerton, in the Interval between our Meetings of the 29th of January and the 1st of February, and of the General Order given out in consequence; which it is necessary to recommend to your Attention, as Colonel Egerton has since denied his having accepted the Alternative offered him by the President.

106. Colonel Egerton has wrote us several Letters on the Subject, and insisting upon resuming the Command of the Army; but we continued in our Resolution not to admit of his retracting, or of his taking the Command, until we received the Sentiments of the Governor General and Council on his Conduct.

107. A Copy of his Letters, and of our Answers in their proper Order, is transmitted in the Packet, also of a Protest he thought proper to deliver, and a Minute made by the President, in consequence, with an Address from the Colonel to you, and a Copy of his Address to the Governor General and Council; all of which, agreeable to our before-mentioned Resolution, we beg Leave to submit to your Judgment.

108. Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn having delivered in a Letter relative to his own Conduct on the late Service, a Copy thereof is transmitted in the Packet with the other Papers, the Particulars of which will be mentioned in the Sequel.

109. The Predicament in which Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn now stand, and the Death of Lieutenant Colonel Cay, rendered it a Case of indispensable Necessity to make some immediate Arrangement for the Command of the Army; Lieutenant Colonel Nelson, the Chief Engineer, as the senior Officer on the Establishment, received the Command of the Garrison, when Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn declined all Military Duty, and Lieutenant Colonel Dagon held the Command of the Artillery, but we had no Field Officer for the Command of the Infantry Establishment, in whose Abilities or Experience we had sufficient Confidence to in-

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

trust so important a Charge at a Time like this. We had before, whilst the Army was in the Field, when Colonel Egerton gave up the Command to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, been under the Necessity of appointing Major Dagon of the Artillery a Lieutenant Colonel, in order to secure a fit Officer for the Second Command, or to succeed to the Chief Command in case of Accident to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn; our Reasons for which are fully stated in our Proceedings of the 5th of January, a Copy of which waits on you under N° 17.

110. At this Time Major Emanuel Henney was the senior Officer, and in Command of the Infantry; who, on his first Appointment as a Field Officer, was barried from further Promotion, and was the Officer whom we judged it our Duty to supersede in the Field, by the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Dagon as abovementioned. We deemed it, therefore, in no Shape proper to continue Major Henney in Command of our Infantry Establishment.

111. Major Charles Frederick was the next Officer in standing. He had been but lately arrived from England, and, as we understand, had borne a Commission in the Guards, but had never seen actual Service before the late Expedition. When you sent him out as the younger Lieutenant Major, we presume you did not expect he would so early arrive at the Succession to an advanced Rank, and a Post of the first military Charge; and as by an unforeseen Chain of Circumstances, it had devolved to us to make the Appointment of an Officer for the Command of the Infantry, we considered ourselves as responsible for the Choice we made, and on that Principle we did not think we should do Justice to the Charge reposed in us by promoting Major Frederick.

112. However it was absolutely necessary that we should have an Officer at the Head of the Infantry, on whose Conduct we could safely rely, and it was at the same Time highly incumbent on us, considering the State of the Army, to confer the most honourable Marks of Notice on those Officers who had particularly distinguished themselves on the late unfortunate Expedition; both these Considerations strongly united in pointing out Captain James Hartley, who of all the Officers on our military List appeared the most fit for this Command: His Behaviour in a Course of Fourteen Years Service has been unexceptionable, and his Conduct and Intrepidity in the Action of the 12th of January, when he commanded the Rear Division, merited every Reward in our Power to bestow, and, as far as we can judge, proved the Preservation of the whole Army. His Merit, and the Judgment he shewed on that Occasion, are acknowledged in the general Orders given out by Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn and Colonel Egerton immediately after the Action, wherein Captain Hartley is the only Officer particularly commanded, except Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn himself.

113. Under these Circumstances, we resolved to appoint Captain Hartley a Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry, and we do most earnestly solicit you to confirm this Appointment, to convince the Army that we shall meet with your Support when the Good of the Service makes it requisite that we should distinguish particular Officers. We are very sorry that we have been obliged to act contrary to your Orders respecting the Promotion of Field Officers, but we trust the Necessity will plead our Excuse. On the Terms we are with the Marattas, and in a Time of actual War with France, it would have been highly unjustifiable in us to have suffered our Military to remain for any Length of Time without an Officer to command them, qualified either to preserve them in proper Discipline, or lead them into the Field; and we hope that the Reluctance we must naturally feel to all Kinds of Supercession, and the Complaints we foresee we should expose ourselves to from Individuals, will be a Conviction to you of the Ground and Necessity for the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Hartley.

114. Captain John Welphall, the senior Captain of Artillery, having also particularly distinguished himself on the late Service, we resolved unsolicited to appoint him a Major of Artillery, to which he had a Title by Seniority; and the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Dagon was a Reward due to his Ability and Merit.

115. We also conferred Marks of our Attention on Captain Bellas, of the Artillery, Captain Cadger, of the Infantry, and Lieutenants Dawson, Bowles, Jackson, Thomas, Waddington, Bannatyne, Macpherson, and Burchall, and the Six Companies of Grenadier Sepoys, who composed the Rear Division under Captain Hartley; the Particulars of all which are mentioned in the Copy of our Minutes under the 1st ultimo, transmitted under N° 17.

116. Lieutenant John Rattray of the Bengal Establishment, who arrived from England in the Royal Henry, and went a Volunteer on the Expedition, where he gave strong Proofs of his Skill and Conduct as an Officer, we returned him our public Thanks for his Services; and as we were glad of the Opportunity of adding such a valuable Officer to our Establishment, we offered him a Commission as youngest Captain, which we doubt not you will approve.

117. As in India Service in general, and particularly in our small Army, the Charge and Responsibility of each Captain is very great, and the most dangerous Consequences may arise from improper Persons being promoted to that Rank, we judged it for the Good of the Service to make it a Rule, and signified accordingly to the Army, that the Lieutenants will not in future be promoted in Rotation to the Rank of Captains, either in the Infantry or Artillery, unless they shall be judged fully qualified for that Station.

118. Agreeable to this Rule, we have set aside Captain John Holebrook from the Command of a Company of Artillery, to which he was next in Succession; the Commandant of the Corps having represented him so much addicted to Liquor, as to be unfit for that Charge. Lieutenant Colthrite of the Infantry, and Lieutenant Layton of the Artillery, have also been passed over in a late Promotion;

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

*motion; but we shall re-consider the Case of the latter, if we discover proper Signs of Amendment.

119. We have received Representations on the Subject from several of the Officers who were superseded by the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Hartley; and Major Frederick has resigned his Commission, and set out for England by the Way of Suez. In his Letter he assumes to himself the chief Part of the Merit attributed to Captain Hartley, in the Action of the 12th; and we therefore think it necessary to mention, that although Major Frederick was sent to reinforce Captain Hartley, he has made a great Mistake in respect to the Time when he was sent, which is confirmed by the Evidence of Captain Rattray and other Circumstances; it must be observed, though not taken Notice of by Major Frederick, but which is confirmed by Captain Rattray, and in Part allowed by Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn himself in his Letter to us, that when Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn sent him down to support the Rear Division, he was ordered, though the Superior Officer, to act in concert with Captain Hartley, and not to make any Movement without his Advice. This is a very particular Circumstance, and strongly expressive of the commanding Officer's Confidence in Captain Hartley, to which we may add the General Orders given out at the Time, when no other Impression prevailed but the Sense of Captain Hartley's distinguished Services. In these Orders not a Word is mentioned of Major Frederick; but since the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Hartley we have received Commendations of Major Frederick.

120. In the Packet we send Copies of the Letters we have received from Majors Frederick and Hopkins, and Captains Jackson, Fewtrell, Campbell, and Turner, and of our Answers. The last-mentioned Officer is in the Engineer Corps, and is not superseded by Colonel Hartley, but thought himself reflected on in the General Orders. This Point we cleared up and did him Justice.

121. It is a Plea much insisted upon by our Officers, That if we have any Fault to find with their Conduct, and think it necessary to supersede them, they ought to have a Trial by a General Court Martial. To this we answer, That many Officers may pass through the Service without laying themselves open to the Military Law, and yet may be very unqualified to rise to the highest Stations in their Line. The Times required an Officer who had something more to plead than merely not having committed a Fault: We wanted an Officer of active and approved Merit, and on whose Ability and Conduct we could depend for the Execution of any Service committed to him.

122. It is scarce possible to give you an adequate Idea of the Deficiency of our Military Establishment in Point of Officers. In the Artillery and Engineer Corps indeed we are so fortunate as to have a Number of well-formed, active, deserving Officers; but in the Infantry we see a very small Proportion of our long List of Captains, from whom we can flatter ourselves with any extraordinary Expectations, in case of their ever rising to a superior Command, and even of this small Number we must look for the greater Part amongst the junior Captains. You will see on Reference to the Correspondence between the President and Mr. Carnac during the late Service, and by the President's Letter to Colonel Cockburn upon his taking the Command, how much was thought to depend on the Abilities of Captain Hartley and Captain Stewart, and how essential a Point to fix them in Colonel Cockburn's particular Confidence. The very strong, natural, and acquired Qualifications of Captain Stewart as an Officer, had given us the most flattering Hopes of seeing him in the List of those Names that have done the greatest Honour to your military Service, and his Loss is one of those Circumstances which in our present Situation we most sensibly feel. The unhappy Termination of the Expedition, on which he was cut off, together with the general Opinion entertained of the different Success that would have attended our Army had Captain Stewart's Rank been such as to have enabled us to have given him the Command, are Circumstances that justly augment our Regret.

123. Captain Hartley's Merits cannot be seen in a more favourable Point of View than in the Choice that was made of him to succeed Captain Stewart in the Command of the advanced Division of the Army, and his Conduct in that Charge was in every Instance such as did him Honour, and will we hope justify the Distinction to which we have thought it entitled him. On the Day of the 12th there is Reason to think, that had his spirited and judicious Councils been followed, of moving up the Line to support him, instead of his retreating to the Line, the Fortune of that Day might have been such as to have secured our Honour, if not our Success; and as it was, his keeping his Ground with his Division till his Representation of the inevitable bad Consequences of such a Measure induced Colonel Cockburn to revoke his Orders for retreating, was probably the chief Circumstance to which the Preservation of our divided Forces was due.

124. Many Particulars will appear in the Papers to which we have referred in this Letter, to support and confirm the Opinion we have given with regard to the Merit of Captain Hartley, and to justify our Motives in advancing him to his present Rank. Yet we are sensible we must still trust much to your favourable Interpretation of our Conduct, and to your Confidence in the Motives by which we were governed in taking this Step.

125. At a Time when the Two chief Officers on our Establishment are under Censure for a Conduct totally opposite to that we think ourselves bound to promote, and to that Spirit which it is our Duty to encourage among your Troops; when so great a Number of Persons find an Interest in maintaining, by any Means, the Claim of Seniority to Promotion, in Preference to distinguished Merit and Services; it is impossible for us to produce those general and decisive Testimonies of our Assertions and Opinions which we always wish should accompany. There is a Tenderness due to moderate Talents and Exertions of Persons of ordinary Merit, which does not allow us even to point out to themselves the Instances in which we judge them deficient, or in which we think their Junior far surpasses them.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

them. Our Answers therefore to the several Complaints of Supercession have been of a general Kind; but we would not therefore have you to suppose that we have not particular Reasons, founded on the personal Knowledge of Characters, for preferring Captain Hartley to every one of those Gentlemen: It would be to no Purpose to enter into them here, since however minute we might be, the whole Weight of what we might urge would depend on the Authority you might be willing to allow to our Capacity and Integrity in forming our Judgments of the Men, and in the faithful Communication of our real Sentiments; we will therefore only beg Leave to remind you, that in the present critical Circumstances our own Interest is too much complicated with that of the Public to suffer us to be swayed by Motives of partial or private Regard. The Opportunities we likewise have of acquiring an intimate Knowledge of the Characters of your Servants, we hope will entitle our Opinions of them to some Consideration; and we will only observe further, that the Abilities, Integrity, Temper, and the general Estimation each Person stands in in his respective Branch of Service, are commonly well understood on the Spot; and that while we are conscious of being guided by such Qualities, we feel that we have paid that Attention to your Interest which our Duty exacts from us, and shall rely on that Support from you which the Performance of it requires, and warrants us to hope for.

126. There are Two Circumstances which in this Place we cannot pass over, both as they are material for your Information and are Instances of the Necessity of the Measure we have adopted in the Military Line, and of the Occasion we have for your Support and Confidence: The First relates to the several Complaints of the Persons superseded by Colonel Hartley's Promotion; the Second to the Case of Major Frederick, who would have it thought that he was particularly injured by it.

127. You will see by Colonel Cockburn's Letter to us of the 16th February, in what Manner he endeavours to exculpate himself, and justify that written Opinion of his, on which the Governor has formed his Charge against him, in his Minute of the 29th January. This you will find he attempts, by referring to the Reports of Desertion amongst the Sepoys, and Panic amongst the Europeans, brought to him by several un-named Officers; and we have Reason to think that much of this Spirit had spread through the Army; and it is no small Occasion of the Dissatisfaction we express at the Conduct of Colonel Cockburn, that he does not seem to have at all exerted himself to repress that Despondency, or to revive and support the Spirits and Courage of his Troops. Had he shewn the Firmness, Vigour, and Example, so essentially requisite in a Commander on such an Emergency, we have no Reason to suppose but that a Retreat might have been effected; for neither the Loss on our Side in the Action of the 12th, nor any Advantage gained by the Enemy on that Day, were such as can be termed decisive. At any Rate, the Trial should have been made, and a few Marches would have put it out of the Power of the Enemy materially to annoy them.

128. The bad Consequences of a contrary Conduct have been too severely felt in their Effect to need further Description; but we are assured that Captain Hartley, in that trying Situation, notwithstanding the Contagion of bad Example, distinguished himself more honourably, because in a Manner more uncommon, than he had before done in Action. He insisted he could depend on the Men he had commanded; and some Desertion having appeared in his own Battalion, from which he had been removed to command the advanced Division of the Army, he joined that Division to his Battalion, whilst the Army remained at Worgaum, and at once put a Stop to the Evil, so far as the Limits of his Command extended. When he was consulted on the Occasion, he urged every Argument to attempt the forcing a Retreat, rather than submit to the humiliating Terms prescribed by the Enemy, he even formed a Disposition, and presented it to Colonel Cockburn, for conducting the Retreat, and avoiding the Inconveniences resulting from a Night March, and the Division of the Troops. These are Circumstances we have every Reason to believe; and yet you will plainly perceive, that in the present Situation of Affairs, we cannot expect to have them vouched for by those, from whom any formal Testimony could with most Propriety have been received; and indeed they imply a Companion so unfavourable for the Generality of our Officers, that Prudence requires us in some Degree not to promulgate them.

129. With regard to Major Frederick, we must take the Liberty, in Addition to what we have already laid of his military Talents, to advance, that we consider his Resignation, not only in that, but in every other Respect, as a very fortunate Event for the Service. He came out recommended very powerfully, and the Respect entertained for the Friends who had interested themselves in his Favour, secured him every Attention that could be shewn him; but we are sorry to say, that he has waited and exhausted the good Offices of his Friends, in deterring him from the bad Consequences which the Violence of his Temper, and other Qualities, must have subjected him; so that there is hardly a Magistrate in the Place who has not in Turn had Cognizance of his Excesses. The Idea of his Interest in England being useful to those who now make a common Cause with him in the Complaint of Supercession, has since the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Hartley united more Persons to him than before; and we believe he is now gone to England as a general Solicitor for the superseded Officers. But our Opinion of Major Frederick was so little in his Favour, that when his Pretensions in the Service became such as could not be allowed, without sacrificing the Interests of the Company and of the Settlement, we should have thought ourselves highly culpable, had we not rejected them: We have, notwithstanding, in our Reply to his Letters, confined ourselves to these general Answers, which we apprehend are fully sufficient in the public Line of Business; but to you, to whom we owe a more circumstantial Explanation of our Conduct, and such Information as may serve to guard you against Misapprehensions and Misrepresentations, we find it necessary to open ourselves without Reserve, even on the tender Point of personal Character; a Subject which if possible

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

we should avoid, but cannot in this Case, without making ourselves answerable for the Errors into which you might be naturally led by the specious and bold Plea of irreproachable Service, unless furnished by us with a Knowledge of Circumstances and Character, which have been the Ground of our Proceedings, and will, we trust, influence yours. This Communication we think at least our Duty, and such a Task as we can expect no Person to take on himself, who is not called on by the same Principle; and therefore, however necessary, it must have been left undone, unless performed by us.

130. From the above Representation, we trust you will be convinced of what Importance it is, and what disagreeable Measures it will relieve us from, that the Gentlemen sent out for Field Officers should be Officers of Service and Experience, and of known Merit and Character; and we make it our earnest Request that you will attend to those Qualifications, in any you may think proper to send to Bombay in future.

131. On the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Dagon, a Doubt occurred to us, whether, according to the Tenor of your Orders, we are absolutely prohibited from promoting a Field Officer from one Degree to another, when there is an actual Vacancy, and the first Appointment has been approved and confirmed by you; both of which were the Case with respect to Lieutenant Colonel Dagon. We request an Explanation of your Intentions, to serve us for a Guide in future.

132. At our Meeting on the 1st February, it was agreed to dispatch a Vessel to Bengal, with Copies of all necessary Papers, and a full Account of the late Transactions and our present Situation, and that in the mean Time a short Address should be dispatched over Land, to advise the Governor General and Council, in Abstract, of the unfortunate Issue of the Expedition, and to request them to suspend their Judgment and Determination till the promised Detail was laid before them. A Letter on that Plan was accordingly dispatched, subscribed by the present Members of the Committee, but Mr. Draper having, at our next Meeting, expressed his Dislike and Disapprobation of that Letter, and of one of the same Date to Colonel Goddard, terming them partial and fallacious; this Proceeding drew Minutes from the President and Mr. Carnac, and Replies from Mr. Draper, all of which, with the Letters objected to, are collected in one Paper, and transmitted under N° 18.

133. Shortly after the Return of the Army, a Vackel from the Poona Durbar, and a separate Vackel on the Part of Madajee Scindia, demanded in Form the Possession of the several Places stipulated to be surrendered by the Agreement at Worgaum. The Answer we resolved to give them, was in Effect as follows: That Messrs. Carnac and Egerton had no Authority whatever to form any Treaty or Engagement binding on the Honourable Company, which their Principals were given clearly to understand before the Paper upon which they ground their Demands was subscribed by those Gentlemen; and that we likewise had no Authority to take any Steps in Consequence until we received the Sentiments of the Governor General and Council, to whom we should dispatch a Vessel express with a full Account of the whole Transaction, and wait their Determination.

134. The President was desired in the Delivery of this Answer, to make use of such Terms as would leave an Opening for further Negotiation or Overtures from Madajee Scindia, which we surmised from some Part of his Conduct might be expected, and that he had even Views to a Connection with us upon Principles of mutual Interest.

135. According to the Intimation given us by the President in his Minute of the 29th January, of his Intention of shortly proposing some Plan of Conduct for extricating us from our present Difficulties, he on the 19th ultimo laid before us a Minute of Review of Maratta Affairs, and containing sundry Resolutions proposed by him in consequence. A Copy thereof is transmitted in the Packet, with the Remarks made by Mr. Draper and our Decisions on the Proposal, and will exhibit to extensive a View of our political Situation as leaves us little to add on the Subject. He therein strongly set before us the great Probability that Nanah's Determination on our Answer to the Demand made by the Durbar for the Surrender of our Possessions, would be hostile to us, if he could prevail on the Chiefs who had acted with him against Ragoba to support him in a War against us; that we had therefore no Time to lose in guarding against such an Union, and that it would be expected from us, that we should exert ourselves in extricating our Affairs from their present Embarrassment according to the Powers already given us by the Governor General and Council, and not supinely to throw on them Difficulties which it was our Duty to meet, and if possible to overcome. The several Measures proposed for this Purpose will appear by the Resolutions; and after full Consideration of the Advantages of a Connection with Madjee Scindia, and the Grounds we had to hope that Overtures from us would be well received, determined to take the Step recommended by the President for putting his Disposition in our Favour to the Test, by writing to him in Terms mentioned in his Minute. But we are sorry to add, he does not seem to meet our Advances in the Manner we hoped for. Whether it may be his Idea, that he shall find his Advantage in keeping us in our present Situation, and that we cannot extricate ourselves without his Assistance, or whether he may think himself able to effect his own Purposes at Poona without our Aid, we cannot determine; but however, we still think it will be good Policy to observe such a Conduct towards him as if we did not consider him connected with Nannah in any Designs against the English, and as having separate and distinct Views, which appears to be really the Case; and we hope we shall derive Advantage from his Conduct in any Measures we may find it necessary to pursue at the Poona Durbar.

A P P E N D I X, N^o. 130.

136. The Resident at Fort Victoria having sent Intelligence that the Marattas at Sevendroog were making Preparations for the Attack of that Fort, and requested a Reinforcement, we sent down a Company of Sepoys in a Bomb Ketch, and in the Interim, on the 13th Instant, an Attack was made, the Particulars of which we are not yet acquainted with, the Resident's Letter having been intercepted; but in a subsequent Letter referring thereto, he desired the Reinforcement might be sent without a Moment's Delay.

137. We had before received several Letters from the Durbar, demanding a Compliance with the Terms of the Convention of Worgaum, and complaining of the Reference to Bengal; and we had also received Intelligence of an Attack being intended against Salfette and Caranja at the same Time, but we conclude the Measures immediately taken for the Security of those Islands, prevented the Marattas from making any Attempts in that Quarter. But by this open Act of Hostility committed at Fort Victoria, it appeared the Durbar were resolved not to keep Terms with us; and we therefore resolved, on the 19th Instant, to meet on some early Day, that after due Consideration we might determine what Conduct to pursue with the Marattas, and in what Manner to dispose of the Bengal Detachment, and to provide Funds for its Support, as well as our other Charges; an Estimate of which, and of our Resources, we directed to be laid before us, and in the mean Time we despatched the President to write a suitable Letter to the Durbar on this open Act of Hostility.

138. We shall communicate the Result of our Deliberations on this important Subject, and the Measures we shall fix upon, in the most expeditious Manner we can; but as the Season draws late, we cannot detain this Vessel any longer without defeating the Intent of her Dispatches, and hazarding her speedy Arrival in England.

139. That we might obtain a full Account of the State and Objects of the Negotiation with Moodajee Bouncello, and also of the Condition and Wants of the Bengal Detachment, we despatched Colonel Goddard to come down to Bombay to give us Information on their Particulars; and also that we might have the Benefit of his Advice in our Proceedings at this Crisis. By a Return he presented on his Arrival, we find his Force consists of upwards of 4000 Sepoys, Rank and File; about 300 Horse, being Part of a Regiment of your Cavalry; 500 of the Vizier's Cavalry, which accompanied him on the March; and a Company of Native Artillery, with proper Establishments of Lascars, Artificers, and Labourers, attached to the Artillery and other Branches of the Army.

140. As the Expence of this Detachment on its present Footing must be very considerable, we thought proper to consult Colonel Goddard on that Head; and whether it might not be possible to make some considerable Reduction therein; and upon his meeting us in Committee for that Purpose, he acquainted us that the monthly Issues for his Detachment amounted to Two Lacks and Ten or Twenty thousand Rupees; and that this Sum might be reduced so far as Twenty five or Thirty thousand Rupees a Month, by sending back the Cavalry, and cutting off some of the Establishments for the Staff; but submitted to us how far any Measure of that Kind might be proper, in case we had any near Prospect of Employment for the Troops, and especially how far it might be prudent to part with the Cavalry, whose Services would be of the utmost Importance in case of any Operations against a Country Power, which he observed we must be sensible of from the great Difficulties our Army lately experienced from the Want of such Assistance.

141. He informed us, that he had Authority from the Governor General and Council to draw on them for the Expences of the Army, and seemed to think that for some Time at least he might be able to supply his Wants without Assistance from us, by Means of the Surat Shroffs; but this does not appear to us a Resource on which he can long depend.

142. He gave us an Account of the State in which he left his Negotiation with the Rajah of Berar, which appears to be still in a Train; and as we had a few Days before received from the Governor General and Council a Copy of their Instructions to the late Mr. Elliot, dated the 18th July, we are now possessed of full Information with respect to their Views and Designs in the proposed Alliance with that Chief, which will be a grand Advantage to us in our Councils, and enable us to frame our Measures correspondent with their Plan of Politics; an Advantage we regret was not sooner given to us. We presume you must long ago have received Mr. Elliot's Instructions; but we now transmit in the Packet a Copy of Colonel Goddard's Letter above mentioned.

143. Colonel Goddard has had the Materials put into his Hands to inform him fully of the late Transactions; and as we shall entrust to him the Execution of whatever Measures may be adopted, we desired him to attend at our future Meetings, in order that he might obtain a proper Insight into our political Proceedings.

144. We shall conclude our Letter with some general Matters of Detail not immediately connected with our Proceedings above related.

145. Upon the First Notice of an approaching War with France, which was received in June last, Orders were given for our Fortifications being carried on with all possible Vigour; and we have the Pleasure to inform you, that our Works towards the Sea are in great Forwardness. The Royal Admiral, now under Dispatch, the Plans and Estimates ordered by the honourable Court in their Commands of the 19th March, will be transmitted, and a full Reply sent thereto by the Governor and Council.

146. Considering the Importance of Tellicherry, and its Vicinity to Myhee, we thought it highly incumbent on us to take Measures for its Security, and accordingly permitted of some small Additions to the Fortifications, and formed an independent Corps, consisting of Three Companies of regular Sepoys drafted from the other Battalions, to compose the Garrison. The Drafts were replaced by

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

the Recruits, so that by this Plan our own Force was not diminished; and we gave strict Orders to the Factors at Tellicherry to attend only to the Defence of their own Settlement, and not to engage in offensive Operations.

147. Colonel Egerton having frequently pressed this Government to make Trial of a Corps of native Portuguese Infantry, with their own Officers, on the Footing of a Sepoy Battalion, and urging our great Deficiency in Europeans, we, on 15th August, consented to raise a small Body, consisting of 400 Privates, to be divided into Five Companies, with Portuguese Officers answerable to the Black Officers of the Sepoys, an European commissioned Officer to each Company, and the Whole to be commanded by One European Captain. If it is possible to make good Soldiers of these People, this Plan gives them all possible Encouragement, which they never received before; and this possibly may be the Reason why they have not hitherto been in much Repute; and it was upon that Principle Mr. Carnac gave his Assent to the Measure. In our Proceedings, which will be sent Home by the Royal Admiral, you will find under the above Date the Particulars of the Establishment of this Corps; which however we may perhaps find it necessary to retain, when our European Battalions are completed, even if it should be found to answer the Expectations formed from it, which we begin to doubt.

148. A general Return of the Troops on this Establishment is forwarded under N° 43.

149. Agreeable to your Directions a Sheer Haulk has been fitted up for the Use of His Majesty's Ships; and under N° 39 we transmit Copy of a Report from the Committee appointed to survey our Docks, and of the List therein referred to, the Purport of which was mentioned in our Address of the 29th of December.

150. We have not come to any Determination on the Proposal for building additional Docks, capable of admitting 74 Gun Ships.

151. In our Address of the 29th of December, we advised of our having taken Possession of the French Factory at Surat, and seized the Persons of the Consul, and of every other Frenchman in that City. This Step, we doubt not, from your Commands of the 31st August, will be approved; and we removed all the French Gentlemen to Bombay, except the Consul and his Family, whom we permitted to remain at Surat upon his Parole. Amongst the Prisoners removed to Bombay was a Priest, who soon after his Arrival sent to inform the President that he had Intelligence of an important Nature to communicate; and being accordingly examined, gave Information, and which was confirmed by another of the Prisoners, that a Plan had been concerted between Monsieur Brian-court, the French Consul, and Monsieur St. Lubin, for bringing down a Body of Maratta Troops to seize and plunder the City of Surat, whilst our Troops were employed on the Expedition; in which Scheme they had engaged some of the Nabob's Officers. A Copy of the Narrative of what was declared by the Priest and the other Prisoner Monsieur Charleval, now wait on you under N° 40; and the President preserving the most profound Secrecy, immediately sent up the latter to Surat, in Hopes of his being able to find the Box of Papers mentioned in the Narrative, which contained the Particulars of the Conspiracy. He however did not succeed, and no farther Discovery has yet been made, though we have offered a Reward of Ten thousand Rupees, and directed Mr. Bodham to trace this Matter with all possible Diligence; but as it appeared very improper under such a Suspicion to permit the Consul to remain any longer at Surat, we have removed him with his Family to the Fort at Tannah, where we propose to keep them till they are sent to Europe.

152. In our Diary, which will be sent by the Royal Admiral, is entered under the 18th August, a Letter we received from Sir Edward Vernon, in Answer to our Requisition for his bringing round the Squadron to Bombay by the Southern Passage, which we mentioned in our Address of the 31st July; and under the 8th September, you will find our Reply to the Reasons urged by the Commodore in Support of his Resolution for remaining on the Coast; and circumstanced as Affairs then were, we flatter ourselves you will think our Reasoning well founded. We also, upon an Application from the Merchants of the Place, made a Request to Sir Edward Vernon to send a Convoy into the Straits of Malacca, to secure the returning Ships from China; which the Strength of his Squadron would not admit of his complying with; but the Governor General and Council dispatched your Ship the Resolution on that Service, and she has since arrived on this Coast with some of the China Ships, and is now under the Orders of Sir Edward Vernon, on the Expedition against Mahé.

153. We have long thought it would be for your Interest to have a Resident at the Durbar of Illyer Ally, to endeavour to counteract and penetrate into the Schemes of the French, and to bring him into a Disposition more favourable to the Honourable Company: And in the Beginning of May last we proposed this Measure to the Governor General and Council; who seemed to have some Doubts how far it might be agreeable to the Nabob of Arcot; and accordingly wrote to the President and Council at Madras, desiring them to acquaint us with the Nabob's Sentiments on the Subject, leaving us nevertheless in a great Measure to act in this Point according to our own Judgment. Not hearing from the Gentlemen at Madras for a considerable Time, we on the 4th November, upon Receipt of Advices from the Resident at Tellicherry, of some particular Instances of the Nabob's Attention to the French, in affording liberal Supplies of Provisions, and even Money, to their Settlement at Mahé, and exciting some of the petty Rajahs dependant on him to assist them with their Forces, we came to the Resolution of deputing Mr. James Sibbald to his Durbar, to make the proper Remonstrances on that Head, and to endeavour to detach him from the French Interest; judging that the Reduction of Pondicherry, which we daily expected to be informed of, would be a favourable Opportunity for effecting our Point. Being afterwards informed that the Nabob had given

A P P E N D I X, N° 150.

the Governor of Mahé Permission to hoist his Colours in case of the Place being attacked by the English, and that he intended sending his Fleet with Supplies of Grain to the French Islands, we have judged it best, as these will be such decided Instances of his Attachment to them, not to dispatch Mr. Sibbald till we are at a Certainty with respect to the Part the Nabob will take when Mahé is attacked; which we hope you will approve, and we took Care to give Notice to the Presidency of Madras and Sir Edward Vernon, of the Intelligence we had received of the Nabob's Intentions, that they might be prepared to regulate their Conduct accordingly, in case the Nabob should openly assist the French.

154. We have actual Advice that a Vessel of the Nabob's, formerly the Salamander Bomb Ketch, sailed for Mauritius the 16th ultimo, with some French Gentlemen, and a few Articles of Merchandise, and 40,000 Pagodas in Money.

155. On the 18th December we received a Letter from the Select Committee at Madras, dated the 8th November, acquainting us that they deemed it so important to acquire Possession of Mahé before the Arrival of any French Armament from Europe or Mauritius, that they then wrote purposely to concert with us the necessary Measures for the Attainment of that Object, and they desired to know what Assistance we could afford in Troops or Stores; acquainting us likewise, that as their Loss before Pondicherry in Europeans, and particularly in the Artillery Corps, had weakened them very considerably, any Assistance we could give in these would be very acceptable, and that if we could supply any Part of the heavy Cannon, Mortar, and Stores, it would be a great Relief to them.

156. They also desired us to take the necessary Measures for securing Provisions for the Troops, and engaging in our Interest the Country Powers adjoining to Mahé, and signified their Intention that the Troops should leave Madras, in December, if nothing should happen to prevent it.

157. We did not lose a Moment in acquainting the Gentlemen at Madras that we should immediately send down to Tellicherry a Train of Battering Cannon and Mortars, with all their Apparatus, and Appurtenances compleat, spare Carriages, and a proper Quantity of Shot, Shells, and Gunpowder, which we accordingly dispatched the 25th of December in the Revenge and Bombay Grab; and at the same Time sent the necessary Orders to your Servants at Tellicherry on the other Point, and also the Resident at Anjengo, to take all necessary Measures for facilitating the Transportation of the Troops from thence to Tellicherry, if the Squadron under Sir Edward Vernon, which we learnt was to come round, should not be found sufficient.

158. Our Troops were at that Time in the Field with Ragoba, and it was not in our Power to promise to spare a Man for the Siege of Mahé.

159. Whilst we were anxiously expecting to hear of the Arrival of the Madras Troops on the Coast, we received on the 11th February another Letter from the Committee at Madras, dated the 7th January, acquainting us of their Troops having marched, but that it was out of their Power (even had they Conveyances) to send more than Half of the Stores necessary for the Expedition, so great had been their Issues for the Siege of Pondicherry; they therefore sent us a List of the Stores they could not furnish, and requested we would immediately dispatch them to Tellicherry, as the Expedition could not otherwise go on; though the Demand made upon us was very heavy we instantly resolved to comply with it, and being unprovided with any other Conveyance, we made Application to the Commander of His Majesty's Ship Asia, then under Orders to join the Commodore, to receive them on board, which he readily agreed to, and arrived with them at Tellicherry the 2d of this Month.

160. The Force destined for this Service consists of

| | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|---|-----------|
| One Battalion of Europeans, | — | — | 439 |
| Three Companies of Artillery, | — | — | 150 |
| | | — | 589 |
| Three Battalions of Sepoys, each | — | — | 750—2,250 |

under the Command of Colonel Braithwaite; who is instructed, in case of Success against Mahé, to avoid if possible entering into any Agreement for preserving the Fortifications.

161. Sir Edward Vernon, with the Rippon and Sartine, arrived at Tellicherry the 9th of February, having left at Anjengo the Seahorse and Coventry with your Ships the Revenge, Bombay Grab, Royal Charlotte, and Resolution, and the Ravensworth Country Ship taken up at Anjengo for that Purpose, to transport the Troops from thence to Tellicherry. He acquainted us he should endeavour to prevent any Reinforcement being thrown into Mahé, and give every Assistance in his Power towards the Reduction of that Fortress; after the Performance of which Service, he should proceed to Bombay to clean and refit the Squadron. In the mean Time he desired we would afford all possible Assistance in refitting the Asia and Sartine, by which we conclude he had revoked his Orders for the Asia's joining him; and the Sartine arrived here the 18th Instant, and will shortly come into Dock.

162. By our latest Advices from Tellicherry, dated 9th Instant, we learn that Two of the Battalions of Sepoys were arrived there with Major Kelly, who acts as principal Engineer; and that the Remainder of the Forces, with Colonel Braithwaite, were expected to arrive at Anjengo, in the Month of February. As the Season begins to grow late, it will give us great Pleasure to hear of their having commenced their Operations.

163. The

163. The Kings of Cotidee and Cartinaddee, and the Samorine, are now in Arms to recover their Dominions, of which they were dispossessed by the Nabob Hyder Ally, and have made considerable Progress. It was thought the latter will soon be in Possession of Calicut, having already expelled the Nabob's People from several of his Forts. They have made Offers of granting to the Honourable Company any Privileges of Trade in their different Countries, provided we will take them under our Protection, or assist them with Ammunition. The Samorine's Minister informed Mr. Church, that his Master had been secretly supplied with Powder and Balls by the Dutch, who have been for some Time in a State of Hostility with the Nabob; but he hoped the Company would in future supply him, as being his old Ally, and whose Friendship he should prefer to that of the Dutch.

164. The King of Cotidee has promised to give the Pepper of his Country to the Company as formerly, which, whilst it was in the Hands of the Princes of Chinka, to whom the Nabob had made it over, was given to the French.

165. These Insurrections will be very favourable to the Operations against Mahé, and we hope put it out of the Power of the Prince of Cherika to impede them, for which Purpose we understand he had assembled a considerable Number of Men by the Nabob's Order. A Party of his People had stopped a Party from the Post at Mount Dilly, who were making Fascines for the Siege, and fired upon them; but upon the Post being reinforced the Prince's People retired.

166. The Prince of Cherika had just before sent to acquaint the Resident that he was well-disposed to be upon the best Terms with the Honourable Company, but that being tributary to Hyder Ally was under the Necessity of obeying his Orders, and that in consequence thereof he was then at Chinibra, to give every Assistance to the French whenever our Army should proceed to the Attack of Mahé: That he wished the Company to defer the Attack till they heard the Result of a Negotiation then on Foot between Hyder and the Gentlemen at Madras, to whom Hyder had promised a Neutrality between the French and English in India, to be guaranteed by him; and that in case the Negotiation failed, Hyder was determined to fall upon the Carnatic, and at the same Time to send effectual Support to Mahé. The Resident returned a suitable Answer to this Message; but we cannot take upon ourselves to say whether there is any Foundation for the Prince's Assertion of a Negotiation being on the Carpet between Hyder and the Gentlemen at Madras, not having heard a Syllable from them on the Subject.

167. In the Beginning of last Month we were informed by the Chief of Surat, that the famous Vizier Ghazidy Cawn had been discovered in the Disguise of a Fakier, near that City, and had been secured by the Nabob. He had resided at a Mosque, and said he intended proceeding on a Pilgrimage to Mecca. This Person is the Son of Ghazie ul Dien, eldest Son of Nizam ul Mulk, formerly Subah of the Decan, and at an early Age was made Buxey to the Emperor Ahmed Shaw, in the Year 1751: He afterwards became remarkable by his Abilities and Crimes, and the Murder of one Mogul Emperor, and depriving another of his Sight; after which he fled to the Jauts, in the Year 1761, and has ever since been wandering from one Power to another, as he could find Security.

168. When we first received this Intelligence, we were of Opinion, that as so distinguished a Person had been thus thrown within our Power, it was proper to detain him until we could receive Instructions from the Governor General and Council, whom we apprized of this Event; and that, as he could not be entirely safe at Surat, and as his remaining there would be attended with other Inconvenience, we thought Bombay would be a more eligible Place for his Residence; with which both he and the Nabob afterwards expressed their Satisfaction; and he accordingly arrived here the 5th Instant.

169. Whilst the Vizier remained at Surat, we received a Letter from him, containing very splendid Accounts of the powerful Assistance he had intended bringing to Ragoba's Cause, by his Connections with different Rajahs, and the most profuse Expressions of Regard to the English. In the Conclusion, he acquainted us his Intentions were to go to Mecca; but having no Necessaries for that Expedition, he desired we would conduct him thither.

170. On making Enquiry from Colonel Goddard respecting this Person, we learn he had some Time ago been in the Bengal Provinces, and that the Government had not thought it material to detain him; therefore, as he was very earnest to be permitted to proceed on his Pilgrimage, and his Residence here would be attended with considerable Expence, we did not judge, from Colonel Goddard's Information, that it would answer any adequate Purpose to detain him here, contrary to his Consent; and we reflected likewise, that if the Governor General and Council chose to have him sent round to Bengal, he would probably return from Mecca sufficiently early for that Voyage the following Season. We therefore sent him up again to Surat in one of your Cruizers, to take Passage from thence in a Country Ship bound to Juddah; which we hope will be approved.

171. Mr. William Lewis, late Assistant to the Resident at the Durbar, having acquitted himself with great Merit, and very much to our Satisfaction, in remaining at Poona to the very last Moment, with apparent Danger to his Person, till our Forces were actually embarked, and we had ordered him to retire, by which we had the Advantage of the latest Intelligence of the Proceedings of the Ministers; and Mr. Mostyn having likewise warmly recommended him for his Diligence and Attention in the Discharge of his Duty; we resolved, on the 3d December, as a Mark of our particular Approbation, to augment his Salary to R' 500 per Month; but as our Intentions in his Favour have been defeated by the unhappy Issue of the Expedition, we think it a Justice due to Mr. Lewis to give this Testimony to you of the Satisfaction received from his Behaviour.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

172. Since the Arrival of Colonel Goddard, Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn has made Application to us to have a General Court Martial for his Trial, upon the Charge given in against him by the President. Copy of his Letter is transmitted under N° 15; and before we gave him an Answer, Colonel Goddard was consulted, who being of Opinion, that as the Reference to the Governor General and Council had been accepted by Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, there would be an Impropriety in withdrawing the Decision on his Conduct for their Cognizance; we returned him an Answer to that Effect, and at his Desire mention this Application to you.

173. Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn having just sent in a Letter, addressed to you, and one for the Governor General and Council, the former is inclosed, and a Copy of the latter.

174. This Vessel, the Betsey Snow, will proceed direct to England with this Packet; and in order to multiply the Chances of our Advices getting safe and early to your Hands, a Duplicate of this Address is put on board the Betsey, to be delivered to the Commander of any of your homeward-bound Ships she may fall in with at the Cape, or St. Helena. Our Diary from Ship to Ship will be sent Home by the Royal Admiral, and the Annual one by the Morse; and in the mean Time we hope the Extracts now forwarded will furnish you with every necessary Information.

175. We shall, as soon as possible after the Departure of this Vessel, dispatch the Panther to Bengal, with Copies of the same Papers we now transmit to you; and we shall then, according to the Resolution proposed by the President after his Review of Maratta Affairs, depute Mr. George Horley to supply the Governor General and Council with such Information and Details of local Knowledge as they may require.

176. Agreeable to what was mentioned in a former Part of this Address, we now set down in Order the Papers forwarded by the present Dispatch, which we submit to your Candour, with a firm Reliance of receiving an impartial and dispassionate Judgment.

We are, &c.

Bombay Castle,
27th March 1779.

(Signed) W^m Hornby, President, &c.

A true Copy.
(Signed) Edw^d Ravencroft, Sec^y.

23d March 1780.
At a Committee of Correspondence; PRESENT,

The Committee having met very often to read the Papers transmitted from Bombay, relative to the Expedition undertaken in favour of Ragoba in November 1778, and having also duly considered the said Papers, do now, upon the most mature Deliberation, submit to the Court the following Opinions on that Subject.

1780. Report on Bombay Affairs.

The Committee find, by a Letter from the Governor General and Council of Bengal, dated 23d March 1778, and received at Bombay the 3d of May following, that the Select Committee of Bombay were therein expressly authorized, under certain Circumstances, to form a new Alliance with Ragoba, and to engage with him in any Scheme which they should deem expedient and safe, for retrieving his Affairs.

That on the 21st of July the said Select Committee resolved unanimously, That they were then at full Liberty to take Measures for subverting a Party in the Poona Government, which was connected with the French in Schemes hostile to the English Company; and that in order to accomplish the Measure, the most practicable Means to be used for placing Ragoba in the Regency at Poona, during the Minority of the Infant Pehwa.

And the Committee find, that the Governor General and Council, by Letter dated the 17th of August, approved the Resolution of the Select Committee at Bombay, and authorized them to assist Ragoba with a military Force, to conduct him to Poona, under the following express Provisions; viz.

First, That it do not interfere with any Engagement formed with Moodjee Buncello by Mr. Elliot, and previous Notice to the Select Committee of Bombay by him.

Second, That the latest Advices from Europe shall be equal to an Assurance that the Force required for this Service may be spared without endangering the Safety of Bombay, in the Event of a French Invasion.

Third, That the Engagements which the Select Committee may form with Ragoba himself, or Moraba and his Associates, be not contrary to those concluded with Moodjee by Mr. Elliot, and noticed to the Committee at Bombay, nor of a hostile Tendency to Berar.

And the Committee find, That the above Letter was received at Bombay, the 27th of September 1778; and that no Step had been taken by the Select Committee of Bombay, in Prosecution of the Measures resolved upon the 21st of July preceding.

The Committee also find, by Letters from Mr. Lewis, the Company's Resident at Poona, entered on the Select Committee's Proceedings of the 26th and 30th of July, that several Maratta Chiefs, supposed

A P P E N D I X, N^o. 130.

supposed to have been in the Interest of Ragoba, and capable of assisting him with a large Body of Horse, had been suddenly imprisoned, or laid under Restraint by Macjee Scindia, another Chief, who was in the opposite Interest.

And it appears, That on the 12th of October following, the Select Committee of Bombay resolved forthwith to carry into Execution the Plan agreed to the 21st of July; to which Resolution Mr. Draper dissented.

The Committee find, That when the Governor General and Council approved the Resolution of the 21st of July, they could not have been informed of the Confinement of those Maratta Chiefs, who were supposed to be well inclined to Ragoba, and capable of affording him the Assistance abovementioned.

And the Committee having duly attended to the Whole of the Proceedings previous to the Expedition under Consideration, are of Opinion, That the Resolution of the Select Committee of Bombay, of the 21st of July, for placing Ragoba in the Regency at Poona, was not improper, under the favourable Circumstances set forth in their Proceedings at that Period.

The Committee are of Opinion, That the Change which happened soon afterwards, respecting the Situation of Ragoba's Friends, and the Lapse of Time from the 21st of July to the 22d of November, rendered it extremely imprudent to undertake the Expedition at that Period.

And the Committee find the Force allotted for the Poona Expedition consisted of

| Artillery, | | | | S. J. Conf. 16th November, 1778. |
|---------------|---|---|-------|--|
| Rank and File | — | — | 143 | |
| Lascars | — | — | 500 | |
| Infantry, | | | | |
| Rank and File | — | — | 448 | |
| Sepoys | — | — | 2,278 | |

hat, Officers included, the Whole are stated at 3,900 Men; and upwards of 400 Rank and File, which Officers in Proportion, were afterwards ordered on this Service; and that a considerable Part of the additional Force consisted of Europeans.

The Committee are of Opinion, That the State of the Garrison of Bombay, as represented to General Vernon by the Select Committee the 8th of September 1778, did not warrant the raising so large a Force on foreign Service at the Commencement of a European War, more especially as speedy Succour was rendered precarious, and consequently Success very doubtful, by the difficultable Situation of the supposed Friends and Partizans of Ragoba.

The Committee are therefore clearly of Opinion, that in November 1778, the Expedition, under all Circumstances, was evidently very hazardous, and not to be justified; that the Reasons stated by Mr. Draper for dissenting thereto at that Period, were solid and judicious; and that the Select Committee of Bombay ought to have waited the Arrival or nearer Approach of the Bengal Detachment under the Command of Colonel Goddard, before they attempted to reinstate Ragoba at Poona.

But as the Majority of the Select Committee of Bombay seemed convinced that Delay would render the Execution of the Enterprize much more difficult, if not altogether impracticable; that the French might thereby acquire such Influence at the Poona Durbar as would occasion perpetual War with the Marattas, and render the Company's Possessions on the Western Side of India insecure and unprofitable; that they considered themselves bound in Duty to the Company to endeavour to prevent Measures so ruinous to their Interest, by taking Advantage of Divisions then supposed to be existing among the Bramin Ministers, and by attempting to establish Ragoba at that critical Juncture, and therefore persisted in the Resolutions to assist him with Forces for that Purpose. Under the above Considerations, though this Committee cannot concur in the Reasons offered by the Select Committee of Bombay, so far as to approve their Conduct, they are nevertheless of Opinion that the said Select Committee appear to have acted according to the best of their Judgment, in undertaking to place Ragoba in the Regency at Poona, in November 1778.

Your Committee find, that the Amount due from Ragoba to the Company, the 30th Day of April 1777, was Rupees 24,72,775.

And Your Committee find, that in November 1778, the Governor and Select Committee of Bombay paid to the Executors of the late Mr. William Shaw, 80,000 Rupees, on Account of Ragoba; also that in the same Month they lent 4 Lacks of Rupees to Ragoba, besides 15,000 Rupees lent to Two of his Servants, amounting in the Whole to Rupees 4,95,000; and exclusive of 500 Stands of Arms, 4 or 5 Guns and their Carriages, 30 Candies of Gunpowder, 10,000 Flints, and 2000 Cannon Shot, agreed by the Select Committee to be delivered to him the 16th Day of November 1778.

And Your Committee are clearly of Opinion, that the late Loan to Ragoba was unjustifiable, more especially as so large a Sum as 1,50,000 Rupees was sent with the Troops, and Authority granted to the Commissary and Paymaster to pass Draughts on the Select Committee for the necessary Subsurrements during the Expedition: And the Committee find that Bills have been accepted on that Account to the Amount of Rupees 2,28,529.

And your Committee submit it to the Court as their Opinion, That unless the Select Committee

A P P E N D I X, N° 190.

give better Reasons than have yet appeared for lending the Sum of 4,95,000 Rupees in the Manner above-mentioned to Ragoba and his Servants, that the Court take into Consideration the Propriety of rendering the said Select Committee responsible for that Amount to the Company.

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| John Woodhouse, | W ^m James, |
| John Purling, | W. Devaynes, |
| George Cuming, | L. Sullivan, |
| Henry Fletcher, | John Harrison, |
| John Mansfield, | Henry Savage, |
| John Michie, | |

Your Committee find that the Select Committee of Bombay appointed Mr. Carnac, Colonel Egerton, and Mr. Mostyn, to be a separate Committee for carrying their Plan into Execution, and directed them to accompany Ragoba to Poona: That the Commander in Chief protested against the Measure: That of course there remained no more than Two Members of the Select Committee at Bombay: That the President, by having a casting Vote, became, in the Absence of the Poona Committee, possessed of absolute Power for transacting all political, military, and naval Affairs, and such as might require Secrecy at Bombay. And as this Transaction militated against the Letter and Spirit of the Court's Orders of the 10th April 1778, the Committee are clearly of Opinion, that the Appointment of a Member of the Select Committee at Bombay, to accompany the Commander in Chief to Poona, was altogether improper, and that the Majority of the said Committee are very reprehensible for their Conduct in that respect; but the Committee exempt Mr. Draper from this Censure, because he justly supposed it to be the Intent of the Company, that none of the civil Members of the Committee should be detached from the Presidency, if the Commander in Chief were to be absent also, and delivered his Opinion in the Select Committee accordingly.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| W ^m Devaynes, | W ^m James, |
| John Harrison, | John Woodhouse, |
| Henry Fletcher, | John Purling, |
| John Mansfield, | Laur. Sullivan, |
| John Michie, | Henry Savage, |
| George Cuming, | |

The Committee find the First Detachment of the Army embarked for the Continent the 2nd November 1778, and Colonel Egerton Two Days afterwards:

That the Army was at Panwell the 25th of November, and remained there till the 4th Day of December following.

That the 30th of November, the Quarter Master General proceeded with a Company of Sepoys of Bara, to mark out an Encampment for a Detachment under Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, who however was not able to proceed as was intended, for want of Bearers.

And by Letters from Colonel Egerton and Mr. Carnac to Governor Hornby, it appears, that there was an almost immediate and total Want of Harmony in their Proceedings during the Expedition; that the distinct Powers vested in the Poona Committee and in the Commander in Chief of the Army, the Propriety of the Commission granted to the Committee, the military Honours to be paid to Colonel Egerton and Mr. Carnac respectively, and the Propriety of keeping separate Tables for them, were Objects of much Discussion and Contention.

The Committee find, that Mr. Mostyn was compelled by a severe Indisposition, to return to Bombay, where he died the 1st of January; and that Mr. Carnac thereupon claimed the Right of a casting Vote, whenever Colonel Egerton only should meet him in Committee; which was decreed and ordered accordingly by the Select Committee at *Bombay.

The Committee find it stated by Mr. Carnac, on the 20th Day of December 1778, that the Troops had, in 25 Days from their Debarkation at Panwell, marched little more than the same Number of Miles: That it appeared to him, that much Labour, Time, and Money, were unnecessarily wasted in making a Carriage Road for the Artillery and Stores up the Gauts: That with the Number of People employed, every Thing intended to be carted might have been carried up by Hand, with more Ease, Security, and Dispatch: That from Conversation he believed this to be the general Opinion; and that the Commandant of Artillery had actually passed some of the Guns by a different Route, wide of the new Road then making by the Engineer, which proved it to be needless.

Colonel Egerton deferred replying to Mr. Carnac's Minute until his Return to Bombay; when he appealed to his Diary, and to the Commissary of the Army, to prove the Propriety of his remaining so long at Panwell; he denied there having been any Languor in the Motions of the Army; he said, the Commander in Chief could not take the Stores and Provisions under his Arm at Panwell, and walk away with them to Poona; that no Guns, except Two, had been passed by any Route wide of the Road made by the Engineer; and he produced several Vouchers in Support of his Assertions.

The Committee find the Representation and Vouchers produced by Colonel Egerton, relative to the Guns, was partial and defective; for although no more than Two Guns, as mentioned by Colonel Egerton, were actually passed by Major Dagon up the Gauts, in the Manner stated by Mr. Carnac, it appears that the Measure was practicable, and that the Colonel was highly displeased with Major Dagon's Activity in attempting to move the Guns up the Gauts, before

* Sel. Conf.
14 Decr 1778.

Sel. Conf.
March 1779.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

The Road was made; that he positively forbade it, and threatened to post Centinels to prevent it. That this Conduct of Colonel Egerton dispirited Major Dagon, who has since declared, That Colonel Egerton would have allowed him the Number of Hands employed in making the Road, he had not the least Doubt but the Whole of the Artillery, with the Stores and Ammunition, might have been carried up the Gavots in Two Days and a Half to the Post occupied by Captain Stewart.

The Committee find, That the Two Guns before mentioned were sent by Major Dagon up the Gavots the 14th Day of December; that the Road was began by the Engineer the same Day; that it was the next Day when Colonel Egerton expressed his Displeasure at Major Dagon, for attempting to carry up the Guns and Stores; that the Roads were not finished till the 23d December; and that the Troops had halted the 9th and 11th of December for the Roads.

And the Committee are clearly of Opinion, That the slow Progress of the Army was inexcusable, and very prejudicial to the Undertaking; that the Conduct of the Commander in Chief was extremely defective; that it gave the Enemy the fullest Opportunity of collecting their Strength; and must have had a direct Tendency to discourage such Maratta Chiefs as might have been friendly to Ragoba from appearing active on his Behalf; and that the most spirited Exertions on our Part were absolutely necessary, in order to afford them proper Encouragement for that Purpose.

The Committee do not find, that the Troops experienced any Obstruction from the Enemy till the 22d of December: From that Day to the 4th of January they were at Times cannonaded, with trifling Effect; except the Loss of Lieutenant Colonel Cay, by a Rocket, the 31st December, and of Captain Stuart, by a spent Shot, the 4th of January; by which Accidents the Company were deprived of Two very gallant and meritorious Officers.

Mr. Carnac in a Letter to the Select Committee, dated the 11th of February 1779, has delivered his Sentiments as follows:

" For the Space of near Five Weeks the Army did not meet with the smallest Molestation; and it can never be sufficiently regretted, that more Advantage was not taken of that Interval, when the Enemy by their Conduct appeared to be wholly unprepared. However they at last pushed a Party forwards near to Condola, where they began their Opposition. As our Troops advanced they constantly gave way; or if they attempted to make a Stand were dislodged; yet so soon as we had taken up our Ground, and fixed our Encampment, they never failed bringing up Cannon near enough to annoy us; and we were I believe more than Fifteen Days successively cannonaded in our Camps; to which the Enemy were encouraged to persist in, by finding they could do it with Impunity; as our Line nor any Part of it was ever moved out, to endeavour by a vigorous Effort to get Possession of some of their Guns."

To the above Remarks of Mr. Carnac Colonel Egerton has made the following Reply:

" I shall say no more on his Remark of our Line, nor any Part, having never moved out, to endeavour by a vigorous Effort to get Possession of some of their (the Enemy's) Guns, except that the Commanding Officer knew the Duties of his Profession too well to give so unjustifiable an Order, for which he would have been highly reprehensible by all Military Judges."

The 5th of January Colonel Egerton wrote as follows to the Governor:

" We have had the usual Cannonade To-day, but rather faint, and without any Loss; and I intend trying To-morrow Morning, about 4 or 5 o'Clock, if we can catch them in their Encampment."

But the Committee find, That Colonel Egerton, the next Day, instead of persevering in his Design of seeking the Enemy in their Camp, declared to the Poona Committee, that having borne up as long as he could against an Illness, with which he had been for some Time past afflicted, he was then under the Necessity of acquainting them, that the Surgeon Major thought the Fatigues of a Campaign, co-operating with his Indisposition, endangered his Life; that he could not hope to have Strength sufficient to attend to the Avocations of a Commander in Chief; and therefore he requested Permission of Mr. Carnac and himself, to resign the Command of the Troops to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, and to proceed immediately to Bombay; which being granted, he set out accordingly; and having obtained Intelligence of a Party of Horse being in the Conkan, he afterwards thought proper to return back to the Army, but did not attempt to resume the Command.

As Colonel Egerton's Want of Health did not prevent him from resuming his Seat at the Poona Committee, it will be necessary hereafter to state the Part which he took in the subsequent Proceedings of that Committee; but your Committee nevertheless think proper in this Place to express their unanimous Opinion, that the Conduct of the late Colonel, now Brigadier General Charles Egerton, during the late disgraceful Expedition towards Poona, was such as renders it highly improper that he should be continued in the Command of the Company's Forces at Bombay; and that he be therefore dismissed from the Company's Service.

W^m James,
Lau. Sullivan,
John Woodhouse,
John Purling,

W^m Devaynes,
John Manship,
Henry Savage,
Henry Fletcher,

John Michie,
John Harrison,
Geo. Cuming.

Select Letters
27th March
1779.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

And the Committee find a Minute entered on the Poona Diary of the 6th of January, stating the Difference between their former Expectations and the real State of Affairs. They had been given to hope, that on the Appearance of Ragoba's Standard above the Gauts, Holkar and many other reputable Maratta Chiefs would join them; that however none but a few Mercenaries had done so, that Ragoba acknowledged, unless we could convince his Friends of their Safety, by speedily beating his Enemies, he had no Hope of being joined by any one; and that our Situation would be rather worse than better, as we advanced towards Poona, because the Army would be cut off from Communication with the Conkan, from whence Provisions and Stores would be supplied.

The Committee allowed that the Conduct of the Enemy, in ravaging the Country and retiring before our Army, seemed to warrant Ragoba's Reasoning, but they hoped as they advanced towards Poona, Holcar, on whose Junction they still placed some Dependance, would be enabled and encouraged to fulfil the Promises heretofore made by him to Mr. Moflyn in favour of Ragoba.

The same Morning, the 6th of January, the Army marched, and the Guns of the Enemy opened from a Wood on the Line. A large Party of Horse seemed inclined to take the Army in Flank, or to enter the Rear, but were prevented, and driven from their high Ground by our Troops, who behaved on this and on all Occasions with the greatest Intrepidity and Cheerfulness.

And the Committee find, That on the Three succeeding Days the Army marched from Mondhurna to Tullagoan, 18 Miles from the Summit of the Gauts, and 16 Miles from Poona, without molestation from the Enemy.

The 9th of January 1779, Messieurs Carnac and Egerton deputed Mr. Sibbald to Ragoba, to represent the Distress occasioned by relying on his Promise for a Supply of Provisions above the Gauts; and on his Assurance that Holcar would join the Troops in Eight Days from the 22d ultimo; and also to inform him, that having only Provisions sufficient to subsist the Army back again to the Conkan, and the Country being laid waste, the only probable Mode of removing their Distress was to make Overtures of Accommodation to Scindia, Holcar, and Saccaram. That the Power of negotiating must be left to the Committee; and that they saw no Alternative but the instant Retreat of the Army, to prevent a total Distress from the utter Want of Provisions.

The next Day the Commissary reported, that from the Stock of Provisions on Hand he was able, barring Accidents, to supply the Army with Provisions for 18 Days; but Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn thought it would be impossible, without a Body of Horse, to secure the Baggage from the Enemy's numerous Cavalry, as the Troops advanced further into the Country, and that the Provisions were equally exposed with the Baggage.

The same Day Information was received that a Body of Horse belonging to Moraba had marched into the Conkan to join Ragoba; but Messieurs Carnac and Egerton observed, that however useful those Troops might be, it did not appear that they could effectually relieve the main Difficulty of the Army, which was the total Impossibility of receiving any further Supply of Provisions, except through the Conkan; it was therefore resolved to preserve the Army by falling back so far as might be necessary to secure their Communication with the Conkan, unless Holcar's Army should join them, conformably to the Assurances of Ragoba.

And Your Committee find, That Lieutenant Frazer was not to suffer Moraba's Troops to ascend through the Pass where he was posted, till further Orders.

In the Evening of the said 10th of January Mr. Sibbald reported that Ragoba had earnestly requested the Committee to defer their Application to any of the Maratta Chiefs, except Holcar, for One Day, let Scindia, from whom he expected a Vackel, should infer that they began to despair of Success, which would of course encourage the Ministerial Party to hold out; that the Care of supplying the Army with Provisions rested with him; that he would furnish the Commissary from this Town (Tullagoan) with a sufficient Quantity for some Days, and that we should get more at the next Village.

Ragoba also informed the Poona Committee, that he had wrote to Scindia to endeavour to engage him in his Interest; but the said Committee not being able to place any Dependance on Ragoba's Promise for a Supply of Provisions, nor deeming the gaining of Scindia an Object of sufficient Importance to warrant a Departure from their preceding Resolution; and believing it certain, that though Holcar did not act against them, he could not act for them; issued Orders to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, the 11th of January, to march back the Army towards the Pass at Condolah, expeditiously as possible; and the 12th of January the Army fell back to Wargaon.

And the Committee find that the Order to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, as entered on the Poona Diary, is signed,

" John Carnac,"
" Charles Egerton."

But in a Letter from Colonel Egerton to the Select Committee of Bombay, dated the 8th of March 1779, he says he never saw or signed the Letter to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn; and in a Letter of the 16th of February Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn says he received Orders from Mr. Carnac, in Presence of Lieutenant Richardson, to retreat; that he desired a written Order, which was promised to be sent him, though it never was.

And the Committee find it reported by Messieurs Carnac and Egerton, that the Enemy having obtained Intelligence of their Moving, attacked them on the March before Day-light, and continued the Attack with great Vigour till Two in the Afternoon; that the numerous Bodies of Horse rendered it impossible to protect the Baggage, and that Part of it fell into the Enemy's Hands; that

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

some Loss was suffered; that in Justice to the Troops, both Europeans and Sepoys, they with Pleasure declare that they behaved with the utmost Intrepidity and Alacrity during the whole Attack. That they shall continue their March to Condolah, and expect to be much harrassed; but the Army will be rendered as compact as Circumstances will admit, and every Part of the Baggage not absolutely necessary will be reduced by the commanding Officer.

As Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn was in Command of the Army, the Committee will state his Account of the Action of the 12th of January, as transmitted in the following Letter to Governor Hornby, dated the 13th of January:

" To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire.

" Honourable Sir,

" I did myself the Honour of informing you of our Arrival at Tellagon on the 9th instant. We halted here the 10th and 11th; and it being determined by the Committee that the Army could not proceed any further, but was under the Necessity of retreating immediately, I accordingly gave out Orders for the March at 11 o'Clock at Night, in Hopes, by leaving our Ground at that Hour, to gain a Day's March of the Enemy, before they could know of this Step; but in this I was disappointed, for I found they had got Intelligence of it before we moved, which must have been conveyed to them by some treacherous Persons about Ragoba. About 2 o'Clock a large Party of Horse first attacked our advanced Guard, which had got on some Distance from the main Body. On Account of the Confusion occasioned by the vast Quantity of Baggage, and the Badness of some Part of the Road, they unfortunately took a great deal of our Baggage and Camp Equipage in this Attack; however, the advanced Guard reached this Village about Day-light, with a great deal of the Provisions and Ammunition safe.

" Our main Body was attacked about Four o'Clock on the Rear and both Flanks; and as we were frequently obliged to halt and fire some Guns at them, it retarded our March, and gave them Time to bring up their Cannon, which obliged us to form in the best Manner we could to oppose them. It was shortly after Day-light when the Attack became general, but the Weight of it fell principally on Captain Hartley's Division, which I supported with Europeans and Sepoys at different Times. From the Situation of the Ground I found it impracticable to join the whole Line to Captain Hartley's Division, as there were large Bodies of Horse ready to charge us, when they found us in such a Situation that we could not use our Guns. The Attack continued till 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon before we could retire, which was effected at last with much Danger. The Troops during the whole Time behaved with the greatest Bravery. I am truly sorry to convey such disagreeable News to you; the last Time I wrote I had no Thoughts of any thing of this Kind happening. I now enclose you a Return of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing. They have engaged us all this Day with small Arms from their Arabs, &c. and a very heavy Cannonade; fortunately we have not suffered much, and we obliged the Arabs to give way at last. It is not determined when the Army marches, I wait the Committee's Orders.

" I have the Honour to be, with great Respect,

Barragam,
13th January 1779.
Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient and most humble Servant,
William Cockburn."

And your Committee find the following Return made of the Killed, Wounded, and Missing, dated the 12th of January 1779, amounting in the Whole to 362.

| | ARTILLERY. | | | | | INFANTRY. | | | | | SEPOYS. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|---------------------|---------|-----------|--------------|----------|------------------------|------------|------------|------------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------------|----------|--------------|----------|-----------|------------|----------|-------------|-------|-------------|------------------|-----------|---------|--------|
| | Lieutenant Colonel. | Captains. | Lieutenants. | Lieutenant Fireworkers. | Sergeants. | Colonel. | Lieutenant Colonel. | Majors. | Captains. | Lieutenants. | Ensigns. | Cadets and Volunteers. | Sergeants. | Corporals. | Drums and Fifes. | Private. | Total. | Captains. | Lieutenants. | Ensigns. | Commandants. | Subdars. | Jemidars. | Sergeants. | Doctors. | H. V. Dars. | Ague. | Trumpeters. | Drums and Fifes. | Watermen. | Sepoys. | Total. |
| Killed | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | 4 | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 26 | 31 | | | |
| Wounded | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | — | 6 | 11 | — | — | — | — | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 74 | 96 | | | |
| Missing | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 98 | 110 | | | | | |
| Total | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 5 | — | 3 | 63 | — | — | — | — | 5 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 44 | 62 | 1 | 3 | — | 3 | 4 | 1 | 15 | 11 | 1 | 198 | 237 |

And

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

And the Committee find the following general Orders issued by the Commander in Chief, the 12th of January :

General Orders issued at Burgaum.

" Tuesday, 12th January 1779.

" The commanding Officer is so extremely satisfied with the gallant Behaviour of the Troops in general, that he orders that a Week's Pay be given to the Europeans and Sepoys; and returns the Officers his public Thanks for their cool and spirited Conduct, and in a particular Manner to Captain Hartley, not only on that Account, but his Judgment as an Officer.

" Colonel Egerton having by Accident been an Eye Witness of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn's Conduct this Day, cannot help expressing his highest Approbation thereof; and is willing to hope, that this will be a strong Recommendation of him to the Board.

(Signed) Rich^d Campbell,
Adj^t General."

And the Committee find, on the Poona Diary the 13th of January, the following Particulars :

" A Committee held to deliberate relative to Overtures for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay. No Minutes taken, being in a severe Cannonade, and a Number of Persons standing round.

" Letter to the Peshwa, sent by Ramsing.

" D^o from D^o, in Answer.

" D^o to D^o, at Night."

But the Committee find no Copy of the Letters said to have been sent to the Peshwa on the 13th of January, nor of his Answer, in any Proceedings transmitted from Bombay.

And the Committee find, that Mr. Farmer, Secretary to the Poona Committee, was sent to the Maratta Camp to propose an Accommodation, which they judged might be effected by Ragoba going over to Scindia; and which they observe he seemed determined to do, rather than risque another Day's March with the Army.

The Message sent to the Marattas was as follows :

" That having had Assurances given us, that the Establishment of Ragoba in the Regency of the Maratta Empire was a Measure much wished for by many of the Sirdars of the Maratta Sircar, as well as by the Country in general, we had consented to conduct him with an English Army for that Purpose; but contrary to our Hopes and Expectations we found his Establishment opposed by the whole Empire: That we had seen with infinite Concern, the Country laid waste and destroyed at our Approach; which being so very contrary to our Intentions by espousing the Cause of Ragoba, that we were determined to be the Occasion of no farther Desolation, and were therefore resolved to march back with the Army to Bombay: That after this Declaration, we expected all Hostilities would cease; and, by so doing, Peace and Friendship would be established between the English and the Maratta State. If, on the other Hand, we should experience the least Act of Hostility on our March, we should consider it as a Declaration of War against the English Nation."

The Answer of the Durbar to Mr. Farmer was, " That if we wished to remain at Peace with them, Ragonath Row must be delivered up, and then we may return quietly; otherwise we may do as we please."

The Committee wrote to Mr. Farmer in Reply, " That all Difficulty of Accommodation was removed, by Ragoba's Design of going over to Mhadjee Scindia; and that they expected, in consequence, proper Securities from the Durbar for proceeding unmolested on their March."

On the Diary of the 15th of January, there appears a Letter from Mr. Farmer, stating the Result of his Conference with the Durbar. He reports, that having informed them of the Difficulty being removed by the Determination of Ragoba to deliver himself up to Scindia, and that he supposed the Army would therefore be suffered to return quietly to Bombay, Nannah observed in Reply, that as we had broken the Treaty concluded by Colonel Upton, we must agree, before the Army moved, to abide by the Treaty concluded with the late Peshwa Nannah.

On pressing the Question, Whether, if Ragoba surrendered himself to Scindia, Hostages would be given for our proceeding unmolested to Bombay? it was answered, That the Surrender of Ragoba was of little Consequence; that a new Treaty must be made on the Spot with the Maratta State, because the Treaty made by Colonel Upton had been broken by the Invasion of their Country. Mr. Farmer conveys his Ideas of the Advantage obtained over our Army by the Marattas in the following Words: " They seem to me to feel themselves in that Situation, with respect to us, which the Turkish Vizier felt himself in with respect to Peter the First, at the Time when the Empress Catherine sent in her Jewels to the Vizier."

It appears that Scindia presided at the Durbar on that Occasion; who finally told Mr. Farmer, that whether there be Peace or War, it was equal to him; but that having broken the Treaty made with

Par. 60.
13. March
61. Par. 60.

62.

Par. 62.

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

with Colonel Upton, we must on the Spot set about forming a new Treaty, to serve as a future Guide between the Maratta State and the English.

At this Juncture Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn was called upon by the Committee to give his Opinion in Writing relative to the Practicability of marching back the Army to Bombay; which was done in the following Words; viz.

" Being called upon for my Opinion on the Possibility of making a Retreat to Bombay, I must declare, that I think the same utterly impracticable. Our Troops are already much harassed and dispirited, from the Necessity we were under of retiring from Tullagaon; and were we to sustain another Attack from the Maratta Army, I am of Opinion the Troops would not stand it; and that consequently the whole Army, with its numerous Followers, would be cut to Pieces. But the Distance from Panwell being about Forty-five Miles, it is not the Attack of One Day we should have to sustain; as I think, were it possible to move from hence, that we could not gain that Place in Twenty Days; and it is therefore chimerical to the last Degree to suppose that our small Army could support themselves from the daily Attacks they would be certain of for so long a Period. I therefore cannot charge myself to conduct the Army, under such Circumstances, to Bombay; and Humanity must prompt some other Method than an Attempt to retire in the Face of the whole Strength of the Maratta Empire, with such a Handful of Men, who must in such Case be sacrificed.

(Signed) William Cockburn."

" Camp at Wurgaon,
" 15th January 1779."

At the Close of the Poona Diary, immediately after the Proceedings of the 22d of January, it stands recorded, that the Committee met the 15th at Wurgaon, to take into Consideration the Measures necessary to be immediately adopted for extricating the Army from its very critical Situation, surrounded by the whole Strength of the Maratta Empire, and with only about Ten Days Provisions in Camp:

That Colonel Egerton's Opinion was also required, and that his declared Sentiments were the same with those of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, that a Retreat in their then Situation was impracticable, and if attempted, the Consequence must be the Loss of the whole Army.

Mr. Carnac's Opinion is then recorded as follows, viz.

" Mr. Carnac is so confident the Army is sufficiently numerous, and so well provided with Artillery, as to be able to force their Way back against all Opposition, if the Officers and Men will do their Duty: That there is no Doubt with him the Attempt ought to be made at all Events, rather than submit to the Terms prescribed by the Enemy, to which we have no Authority to bind our Employers. And for his own Part, he declares, he would much sooner run his Share of the Risk, than that they should be complied with. However, as Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn have given it as their positive Opinions, that the Troops will not stand, and consequently must be cut to Pieces, Mr. Carnac dares not take upon himself singly to press a Retreat, which it is pronounced will be inevitably attended with Consequences that cannot fail of endangering the Preservation of the Settlement. He therefore, however reluctantly and contrary to his own Sentiments, finds himself obliged to concur in the Acceptance of whatever Conditions can be obtained. Allowing, therefore, that the Opinions of Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn be well founded (in which we are given to understand many Officers in the Army also concur) there seems to be no other Resource left, but to accept of such Conditions as can be obtained from the Enemy.

(Signed) John Carnac."

In the Margin of the Diary of the 22d of January it is noted, that the above Minutes were omitted in the proper Place, through the Mitapprehension of the Committee's Secretary, and without the Knowledge of Mr. Carnac.

Colonel Egerton has disavowed and protested against the said Minutes; and in regard to the written Opinion of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, he has declared, in his Letter to the Governor General and Council of Bengal, that he never saw it till it was read at the Board at Bombay; but he there allows it to have been founded on solid Reasons and uncontrovertible Facts. The Colonel adds, that he is much at a Loss to conceive how he could be said to have concurred in Colonel Cockburn's Opinion at a Committee which was never held, and in a written Opinion which he never saw, till produced at Bombay; and he has also declared, that the greatest Part of the Diary was spurious and inadmissible.

Mr. Farmer, the Secretary to the Poona Committee, was on Service at the Maratta Durbar, on the 15th of January; Mr. Carnac has therefore appealed to other Persons to authenticate such Proceedings of that Day as have been disavowed by Colonel Egerton; and the following Letters on the Subject stand recorded on the Proceedings of the Select Committee of the 10th of March 1779:

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Letter from Mr. Sibbald to the Secretary.

To Mr. Edward Ravenscroft, Secretary.

Sir,

I have received your Letter of Yesterday's Date, acquainting me that the Honourable the Select Committee require of me a clear and full Statement of the Circumstances relative to a Meeting of the Poona Committee at Worgaum on the 15th January: In Answer to which I have to acquaint them,

That being desired on that Morning to attend at Colonel Egerton's Tent, in consequence of a Letter just received from Mr. Farmer of the 14th, I concluded that the Meeting was a Committee, and prepared to take Minutes accordingly, by beginning the usual Preamble; but the immediate Dispatch of the Answer to Mr. Farmer's Letter being required, I did nothing more while in the Tent that Morning, than writing the Letter to Mr. Farmer, and taking a Transcript of it for the Diary, but so soon after as I got a Place to write in, which I believe was the next Day, I took Minutes of what passed in Argument on the 15th, to the best of my Recollection, which I shewed to Mr. Carnac, and he thought them nearly expressive of his own Sentiments; but not deeming them sufficiently full, he then delivered me his Opinion more at large, when a fair Copy was made of the Minutes, and signed by him, and afterwards presented by me to Colonel Egerton.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,

James Sibbald.

Bombay,
2d March 1779.

Letter from Lieutenant Colonel Hartley to Mr. Carnac.

Sir,

Sealed Conf.
10th March
1779.

In Answer to your Letter of Yesterday, where you desire to know if I recollect what passed at Colonel Egerton's Tent at Worgaum on the 15th January last; I have to inform you, that I perfectly remember you there declared, (where Colonel Egerton, Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, Mr. Sibbald, Mr. Holmes, and myself, were present) that you were decidedly of Opinion, that the Army ought at all Events to attempt a Retreat, and not submit to the mortifying Terms proposed by the Enemy; but that as Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn declared their Opinion, that the Army could not make good their Retreat, and that the Troops would not stand another Attack, you could not take upon you, under such Circumstances, to pres a Retreat.

I have the Honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,
James Hartley.

Bombay,
5th March 1779.

Letter from Mr. Holmes to Mr. Carnac.

Sir,

Sealed Conf.
10th March
1779.

I have a perfect Recollection of the Opinion delivered at the Meeting held in Colonel Egerton's Tent at Worgaum the 15th January last, where yourself, Colonel Egerton, Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, Captain Hartley, Mr. Sibbald, and myself, were present; and I well remember you declare in Presence of us all, that you were decidedly of Opinion the Army ought at all Events to attempt a Retreat, rather than submit to the extravagant Terms proposed by the Enemy; but that as the principal Officers, Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, had declared it as their Opinion the Army could not make good a Retreat, and that the Troops would not stand another Attack, you could not, under such Circumstances, take upon you singly to pres a Retreat.

I am with Regard,

Sir,

Your most obedient
humble Servant,
Thomas Holmes.

And the Committee find the following Answer, dated the 15th of January, returned by Mellier Carnac and Egerton to Mr. Farmer's Representation of the Durbar's Demands:

To Mr. William Gamel Farmer.

Sir,

We received your Letter of last Night only an Hour ago, the Hircarrabs having been detained by some Accident: In Answer to which you must acquaint the Durbar, that they demand what we have no Power to agree to; the entering into and concluding Treaties being solely confined to the Gover

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

nor General and Council of Calcutta; to whom therefore they must send their Vackels. The only Power left to us, is, the giving up the Cau's and Person of Ragonaut Row; which done, must certainly put an End to all Disputes between the English and the Maratta State; and there is no Doubt that Peace and Friendship will then subsist between us from henceforwards.

You must inform them, should we enter into any Treaty, we should only deceive them, having no such Powers; we therefore desire they will immediately acquaint us, whether, upon our abiding by the Conditions first proposed, of delivering up Ragoba, they will comply on their Parts, by suffering us to march unmolested to Bombay, and for which Purpose, to give us the necessary Security.

We are,

Sir,

Wurgaon,
15th January 1779:

Your obedient Servants,

J. Carnac,
C. Egerton.

And after writing the above Letter to Mr. Farmer, it was resolved immediately to dispatch Mr. Thomas Holmes to Scindia, with full Powers to settle with the Durbar for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay, *on such Conditions as he might be able to obtain*, since it was the Opinion of the Commanders in chief, that a Retreat was impracticable.

In Answer to the Poona Committee's Letter, stating their Want of Powers to make Treaties, Mr. Farmer desired that Madjee Scindia desir'd to be informed, by what Authority they had broken that in *such a Case*? If the Governor General and Council had authorized the Measure, he desired to see the Authority; otherwise, if the Committee had acted on their own Authority, they must answer it, and make a new Agreement: That Ragoba might be surrendered, or otherwise, as we pleased; but till a new Treaty were made between the English and the Maratta State, our Army must remain where it was, whatever might be the Consequence.

At 10 o'Clock in the Evening of the 15th of January, Mr. Holmes arrived with Terms for the peaceable Return of the Army to Bombay; to which, the Committee declare, nothing but the avowed Opinion of the principal Officers, relative to the Impracticability of effecting a Retreat, would justify their acceding. They also declared, that the Durbar could not be ignorant of the want of Power in the Committee to conclude *such a Treaty* as the Durbar then pretended, and evidently compelled them to enter into, because they were already informed, that the Committee had no Powers to conclude any Treaty whatever.

In the Morning of the 16th of January, Mr. Holmes was dispatched to the Maratta Camp, to finish the Agreement; of which a rough Sketch had been prepared the preceding Day. In the Evening Messieurs Farmer and Holmes returned with Scindia's Vackels, to see the Treaty duly executed by the Committee; and also with a separate Article in Favour of Madjee Scindia, to which Messieurs Farmer and Holmes had been obliged to consent.

By the Treaty with the Durbar on the one Part, and the English Company on the other, it is stipulated,

That the English shall remain on the same Footing as they were in the Time of Madarow:

That the Islands of Sallette, O. L. A., and other Islands and Places, shall be given up:

Also Jambooseer, and the Daul'tis of Broach:

Also Chickly, Venow, &c.

And the Bengal Detachment ordered back to Calcutta: Which Messieurs Carnac and Egerton promise faithfully to perform; and for which Performance they pledge the English Faith.

And concerning the above Agreement, it is stated, That Mr. John Carnac and Colonel Charles Egerton, of the Select Committee of Bombay, being *fully empowered*, did depute Mr. Thomas Holmes and Mr. Farmer,

The separate Article is stiled an Agreement between John Carnac, Esquire, Counsellor, and Colonel Charles Egerton, an English Committee of Bombay, with Madjee Scindia.

And the Terms of that Agreement being more extraordinary and degrading than the public Treaty, the Committee have thought it right to insert the same in this Place without any Abridgment.

Agreement of John Carnac, Esquire, Counsellor, and Colonel Egerton, an English Committee of Bombay, with Madjee Scindia.

That after falling out with the Sircar of Mhaderow Narrain Pundit Purdhan, we^{*} with an Army came up on the Gant, and remained at Tullagaun; on which you[†] ordered a Fighting, and we, both Parties did fight, in which we were defeated, returned back, and encamped at Worgaon with Dada [‡] Saheb. We[§] could hardly reach Bombay with our Army and Stores; considering which, we sent Messrs. Farmer and Holmes to you, desiring you[§] would come between us, and get the Sircars and our Treaty settled as before, and conduct us and the Army to Bombay. On which you did suspend the War; you came between us, and got the Sircar's and the English Treaty settled, and you promised to conduct us and the Army to Bombay without molestation from any body; you made our Escape entirely; all which we took into our Consideration, and were very glad. You are a principal Officer and Well-wisher to this Government, which has induced us to keep a Friend[¶] with

* The English
† Marathas
‡ Rajah
§ Prince
¶ Friend

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

with you : This came into our Mind ; and we were satisfied that you made us free from the Sircar's and every Body's Molestation, and got the Treaty settled as before, without any Dispute from the Sircar ; therefore we thought we should serve you ; and for which Reason have, of our free Will and Accord, agreed, under the King's and Company's Seal, to deliver up to you the Fort of Broach, with its Government, in the same Manner the Mogul did hold it ; which Fort is now in our Possession, and which we have given you. We further agree that we will, on our Arrival at Bombay, obtain the Governor's Dusluck, under the King's Seal, to the Killedar of Broach, and deliver the Fort and its Country, in the Manner the Mogul did hold it, up to you. Under Oath, no Dispute shall arise in this. This we promise solemnly ; and we have left Mr. Farmer and Mr. Charles Stewart with you, as Hostages for the Performance of this Agreement. We will let no Dispute arise. This we agree to in Writing.

Worgaon, near Tullagam, 27th Julheze.

*Letter from,
March 1779,
Par. 74.*

And Your Committee find, that on concluding the above Treaties, Presents were made by the Poona Committee to Officers of the Durbar, to the Amount of 41,000 Rupees, for which Notes were given.

And Your Committee find it minuted by Mr. Carnac on the Proceedings of the Select Committee at Bombay, the 16th of March 1779, " That having, since his Return from the Expedition, perused the Translation of the Treaty and separate Article, he finds them conceived in such Terms, that he should certainly have objected thereto at the Time of Signature, had they been literally explained to him ; but that he only understood the Contents in general Terms ; and indeed was the more indifferent as to the particular wording of them, as he always bore in his Mind the Idea that they were of no Validity, and would never be ratified by their Superiors."

*Letter from,
Par. 70.*

And Your Committee find, that Mr. William Gamul Farmer, late Secretary to the Poona Committee, and Lieutenant Charles Stewart, were left as Hostages for the Performances of the Treaties concluded by the Poona Committee..

*Letter from,
March 1779,
Par. 73.*

And Your Committee likewise find, that the Whole of the above Transactions were complicated before the Select Committee of Bombay could be informed thereof.

After the Conclusion of the Treaty, Mr. Carnac addressed Governor Hornby as follows :

Sir,

It is with the deepest Grief and Indignation I have to inform you, the Army is returning very disgracefully to Bombay. Indeed, the Commander in Chief, the Second in Command, and I fear too many more of the Officers are unfortunately so forcibly impressed with the Idea that the Troops would throw down their Arms, and suffer themselves to be cut to Pieces if attacked on the March by the Enemy, that I am confident they would, rather than have made the Attempt, submitted to any Conditions, even to the Whole of the Forces surrendering themselves Prisoners of War, and remaining as Hostages till Bombay was delivered up, if this had been insisted on. I most certainly recommend your keeping a profound Secret what I now communicate, except that the Army is on its Way back, until I see you ; and you may depend upon my coming forwards with Mr. Holmes, so soon as it can be done with Safety.

You will be pleased to order Boats immediately to Bellapore for the Reception of the Troops ; and will endeavour to get a Letter conveyed to Mr. Carnegie, directing him to send thither what Boats can be collected at Carranjah.

*Letter from,
9th March
1779, Par. 71.*

And Your Committee find that Messrs. Carnac and Egerton, the 16th of January 1779, directed Colonel Goddard to march back with the Army under his Command to Bengal ; and that Two Days afterwards countermanded that Order.

That on the 17th of January the Bombay Troops began their March back to Bombay, and were escorted by a Party of Maratta Horse to Panwell, which they reached in Seven Days, and from whence they were transported to Bombay.

Notwithstanding the general Character given of the Troops by Mr. Carnac, Your Committee find that he afterwards subscribed to an Exception, which, in the Opinion of this Committee, would have fully justified his issuing the most positive Orders for the Army to attempt to force a Retreat to Bombay.

In the Letter of the Select Committee, dated the 27th of March 1779, Par. 128, which is signed by Mr. Carnac, it is stated, that Captain Hartley, on that trying Occasion, notwithstanding the contagion of bad Example, insisted upon it, that he could depend on the Men which he had commanded, that he *actually* put a Stop at once to Desertion, so far as the Limits of his Command extended, that when consulted, he urged every Argument to attempt the forcing of a Retreat, rather than submit to the humiliating Terms prescribed by the Enemy ; that he even *formalized*, and presented to Colonel Cockburn, the necessary Disposition for conducting the *Retreat*, and for avoiding Inciencies resulting from a Night March, and the Division of the Troops.

Having stated the above Particulars, your Committee remark, that the Army was only 18 Miles, or about 2 Days March, from the Summit of the Ghauts, and about 16 Miles, or 2 Days March, from Poona, on the 11th of January, when Orders were given to march back towards Condolah ; that

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

that Advice had just been received of Moraba's Horse being in the Conkan to act in Favour of Ragoba; that the Commissary had 18 Days Provisions in Store; and that Ragoba had promised a further Supply; that in every preceding Skirmish, the Enemy had been worsted, and compelled to retreat; that the Troops were in Spirits, and intrepid; that no Council of War was called at Tullagaon to take the Sense of the Officers of the Army on the Necessity of retreating; that although the Order for the Retreat of the Army on the 11th of January was the joint Act of Mr. Carnac and Colonel Egerton, yet as Mr. Carnac had a casting Vote in the Poona Committee, and possessed in Fact supreme Authority in Camp at the Time, he was more particularly responsible for that Measure.

Sel. Letter from,
27th March
1779, Par. 52.

And it appears by the Return of the Commanding Officer, that our Loss of Men in the Action of the 12th of January, was not very great; the general Orders of the Day express his extreme Satisfaction with their gallant Behaviour in general; the Officers were publicly thanked for their cool and spirited Conduct; and Captain Hartley was particularly distinguished for his Judgment as an Officer: It is allowed that there were Ten Days Provisions in Camp after the Action; it is asserted by the Select Committee, that the Officer last mentioned declared he could rely upon the Men he commanded, and urged every Argument in favour of forcing a Retreat rather than submit to the Terms prescribed by the Enemy: It cannot be doubted, that Mr. Carnac continued in Possession of Authority without Controul, except to make Treaties; he was confident, it the Officers and Men did their Duty that the Army was sufficiently numerous, and so well provided with Artillery as to be able to force their Way back against all Opposition; he had no Doubt but the Attempt ought to have been made; his Words are, "at all Events rather than submit to the Terms prescribed by the Enemy;"—yet, under all Circumstances, rather than press a Retreat, he ventured to pledge the English Faith, in the most solemn and sacred Manner, for the Observance of Treaties, of which he owns he did not at the Time expect the Confirmation. He stipulated to obtain the Governor's Dulluck for delivering up the Company's Possessions to the Marattas, and gave Hostages for the due Performance of extraordinary Agreements, under mental Reservations and pre-conceived Ideas that they were of no Validity, and would never be ratified by his Superiors.

And your Committee do not find that any Censure has been passed on Mr. John Carnac at Bombay; nor that any Enquiry has been made by the Select Committee into his Conduct and Behaviour during the late Expedition.

And upon the most impartial Review of the whole Conduct of Mr. Carnac during the late Expedition towards Poona, and after duly considering all the Circumstances relative thereto, the Committee are unanimously of Opinion that Mr. John Carnac be dismissed from his Office, as one of the Council and Select Committee of Bombay.

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| W ^m James, | John Purling, |
| W ⁿ Devaynes, | John Woodhouse, |
| Lau. Sullivan, | Henry Savage, |
| John Michie, | Henry Fletcher, |
| John Harrison, | John Manship. |
| Geo. Cuming, | |

Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn.

And your Committee find, That on the 29th of January 1779, Governor Hornby delivered in a formal Charge against Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, for refusing to charge themselves with conducting the Army from Burgaum to Bombay; and that the said Charge was grounded on the written Opinion of Colonel Cockburn, concurred in by Colonel Egerton, above-mentioned.

Letter from,
27th March 1779
P.r. 100. A.M.
Sel. Conf.
29 Jan. 1779

In Support of this Charge, the Governor remarked, that the general Order of Thanks to the Troops, for their Behaviour on the 12th of January, sufficiently demonstrated that the said Opinion was totally void of Foundation: That the fatal Influence and Infection of such Opinions, when adopted by Officers in superior Command, was well known: That it was not a Matter of Wonder if, under such Sanction, similar Sentiments had gained some Ground: That this however could not be admitted in Extenuation; and supposing it true, the Commanding Officers could not be allowed to support their unfeudierly Sentiments by the Authority of their inferior Officers.

Your Committee do not find that any Circumstance respecting the different Sentiments and Opinion expressed by Captain Hartley, relative to the Propriety of attempting to force a Retreat, is stated in the Select Letter of the 27th of March, Par. 128, was mentioned by Governor Hornby (or by any Member of the Select Committee) when the Governor delivered in his Charge against Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn; nor at any Time before the Date of the said Letter.

And your Committee find, that Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn has acknowledged, in his Letter of the 16th of February 1779, that he gave the written Opinion already stated: That it contained his real Sentiments of the Army's Situation: That having remained at Burgaum the 13th of January, without any Thing being determined, cannonaded as usual by the Enemy; an European Officer of Sepoys informed him at 8 in the Evening, that he could not get his Company to do their Duty

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

on the Rear Guard; that the Black Officers would not assist him; that it was apprehended they intended to desert in the Night:—That upon this Information, he ordered Captain Samper to go to the Rear Guard, with a View to look after the Sepoys: That another European Officer, from the 6th Battalion, brought him Reports equally disagreeable; that Ragoba informed him that 300 Sepoys intended to desert that Night; and that Mr. Sibbald, at Midnight, communicated the same Intelligence; that the Language of the Europeans proved them to have been greatly fatigued, dejected, and dispirited; that it was by no Means correspondent with their former Steadiness, that in spite of all Precautions 11 Black Officers and 155 Men, Europeans, Sepoys, and Lalcar, did desert; that both Europeans and Sepoys continued to do till after they left Burgaum; that had another Attack as that of the 12th of January, would nearly have exhausted their Ammunition; that the Army was reduced 2,138 Rank and File; that 300 Sick and Wounded were to be taken off; that the very Existence of the Army necessitated him to give the Opinion he delivered; and that Colonel Egerton was convinced of the Propriety thereof.

And your Committee find, that Colonel Cockburn has denied having absolutely refused to charge himself with the conducting of the Troops to Bombay; and declared, that all he meant was, that as he did not think it possible to effect a Retreat, he could not be answerable for the Consequences which he foretold would follow; that if Mr. Carnac had ordered it to be attempted, he should not have disobeyed him, whatever Consequences might have ensued; that Mr. Carnac was all powerful; that the only Responsibility resting with the Commanding Officer was, for the Mode of executing any military Measure, but not for the Measure itself.

That Major Dagon had also wrote and signed an Opinion, which agreed with that of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, as to the Impossibility of a Retreat; that such Opinion was ready to have been delivered, but not demanded by Mr. Carnac.

That he had on former Occasions hazarded his Life in the Service, and repeatedly led the Company's Troops in Attacks which have been attended with Honour, and produced great Advantage to the Company; and that Mr. Carnac himself had passed Encomiums on his Mode of commanding the Troops, both in advancing and retreating, during the late Service; though now, for an Opinion only given to the best of his Judgment, he was to be stigmatized, and in a Manner excluded the Service.

*Letter from,
17th Mar. 1779,
Par. 101.*

And your Committee find, that when Governor Hornby preferred the Charge against Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn and Colonel Egerton, he would have thought himself justified in moving for their Suspension from the Service, if they had not agreed to decline all military Duty until the Conduct and the late Transactions should have been stated to the Governor General and Council, and their Opinion respecting the Propriety of continuing the said Officers in, or of dismissing them from the Company's Service, should be received; by which Opinion he declared it his Intention to be guided. And your Committee find, that the Case of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, as well as that of Colonel Egerton, together with all Proceedings relative to the late Expedition, have been transmitted for the Consideration of the Governor General and Council accordingly.

Your Committee do not find that the Select Committee of Bombay have informed Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, of their being in Possession of the Facts stated in their Letter of the 27th of March, concerning Captain Hartley's Opinion for attempting to force a Retreat.

And Your Committee find, that Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn entertained the highest Opinion of Captain Hartley's Abilities, previous to the Action of the 12th of January, as appears by the following Extracts of private Correspondence during the Expedition.

Extract of a Letter from Governor Hornby to Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn, dated the 5th January 1779.

“ There is one other Point on which I must desire to be no less pressing; which is, my Recommendation of Captains Hartley and Stewart to you. I can assure you, that in this I do not mean any personal Mark of Favour to either of them; but that the general Good of the Service is my only Object.”

Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn's Answer, dated the 8th of January 1779.

“ You cannot have a higher Opinion of Captain Hartley than I have; and I am so well convinced of his great Abilities as an Officer, and exceeding Zeal to promote the Service, that his justly merits every Attention and Confidence from me. He was appointed by Colonel Egerton to take the Command of the Grenadier Corps, when it became vacant a few Days ago, by the most lamentable and unfortunate Accident of the Death of Captain Stewart.”

*Select Comt.
26 Mar.*

And Your Committee find, that on the 13th Day of March 1779, Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn entreated that a Court Martial might be ordered, to try him upon the Charge delivered against him by the Governor: That he was acquainted in Antver, that as a Reference to the Governor General and Council had been agreed upon, and accepted by him, and the necessary Papers prepared for their Information, there would be an Impropriety in withdrawing the Death from their Cognizance; for which Reason, Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn's Request for a Court

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

Martial was not granted. And Your Committee remark, that the Date of the Request for a Court Martial, is Six Weeks after the Charge had been preferred against him by Governor Hornby.

And Your Committee having maturely and deliberately considered the Conduct of Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn during the late Expedition, are unanimously of Opinion, that he be dismissed the Service of the Company.

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|--------------------------|-----------------|
| W ^m James, | Henry Fletcher, |
| W ^m Devaynes, | John Harrison, |
| Lau. Sullivan, | John Michie, |
| John Manship, | John Woodhouse, |
| Geo. Cuming, | Henry Savage. |
| John Purling. | |

Promotion of Captain James Hartley.

And your Committee find the following Observations and Resolutions entered by the Selection Committee of Bombay, on their Proceedings of the 1st of February 1779; viz.

" The great Importance in our present critical Situation, of having an Officer at the Head of our Infantry. The Conduct we may safely rely; and the Justice we owe to the Service, of distinguishing those who eminently signalized themselves on the late unfortunate Expedition, unite in pointing out Captain James Hartley; who, on both Considerations, is intitled to our First Notice in the Arrangements now indispensably necessary to be made amongst the Field Officers. Since Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn have chose to decline all Military Duty and Command, and the Death of Lieutenant Colonel Cay, the chief Command of the Infantry has devolved by Seniority to Major Emanuel Hanney, who, on his first Appointment as a Field Officer, was barred from further Promotion, and whom, on the 5th of last Month, we found it necessary to supersede in the Field, by giving a Lieutenant Colonel's Commission to Major Dagon of the Artillery: It is therefore deemed in no respect proper to advance him to a higher Rank, or to continue him in Command of our Infantry; neither do we judge that Major Frederick, the next Officer standing, possesses sufficient Experience to qualify him for so important a Charge, in these very critical Times.

" In looking over our whole military List, no Officer appears so fit for this Command as Captain Hartley; his Behaviour in a Course of Fourteen Years Service has been unexceptionable, and to his Conduct and Intrepidity are we principally indebted for the Preservation of our whole Army in the Action of the 12th ultimo. His Merit as an Officer on the late Service is particularly acknowledged in the General Orders given out by Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn and Colonel Egerton, immediately after the Action, as entered hereafter. To which Mr. Carnac adds his Testimony, in a Manner much to Captain Hartley's Honour.

" In these Circumstances, and prompted by our Desire to reward such distinguished Merit, we do unanimously resolve to appoint Captain James Hartley a Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry, and strongly solicit the Honourable Company to confirm this Appointment; trusting that the Uncommonness of the Step, and the Reluctance we most naturally feel to all Supercession, will be a Conviction to them of the Grounds and Necessity for this Measure.

" We also consider it equally incumbent on us to confer Marks of our Notice on the other Officers, who particularly distinguished themselves on the late Service; and on this Principle it is unanimously resolved to confer, unsolicited, a Major's Commission on Captain Juⁿ Welphall, the Senior Captain of Artillery, to which he has a Right by Seniority, and the late Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Dagon, and which he amply merits by his Ability and signal good Behaviour.

" Captain John Bellas, of the Artillery, having likewise deservedly attracted our Notice, it is unanimously resolved to appoint him Director of the Laboratory, for which he is well qualified, and which will be vacated by the Promotion of Lieutenant Colonel Dagon, and the Necessity of his attending to his other Avocations as Commandant of Artillery.

" Captain Alexander Cadger, of the Infantry, having also behaved in a distinguished Manner, Resolved unanimously, that he be confirmed in Command of the 5th Battalion of Sepoys, vacant by the Death of Captain James Stewart.

" Lieutenant Thomas Dawson having proved himself a brave and active Officer on this and every other Service on which he has been employed, it is unanimously Resolved, in order to convince the Army that we will spare no Effort to reward Merit, to give Captains Brevets to Three Senior Officers, that the Promotion may reach Lieutenant Dawson, who is also to have a Captain's Brevet. The Three Officers to be promoted are, Lieutenants Lerdrum, Bowles, and Peche; and we are glad to mention, that Lieutenant Bowles, who was on the late Service, has by his Behaviour merited some Mark of our Notice.

" Lieutenant John Colbatch, who is a Senior Officer to Lieutenant Dawson, not being esteemed properly qualified for a Captain's Commission, is not included in this Promotion.

" Lieutenant John Rattray, of the Bengal Establishment, who arrived from England in the Royal Henry, and went a Volunteer on the Expedition, where, in the most trying Situations, he gave eminent Proofs of his Skill and Conduct as an Officer, Resolved unanim outly, that our Thank^s be given him in General Orders; and as we shall be very glad to add such a valuable Officer to the Establishment.

A P P E N D I X; N° 130.

ment, it is further unanimously resolved to offer him a Captain's Commission, to rank next to Captain Dawson.

" Lieutenants James Jackson, and S^t Lo Thomas, of the Artillery, having also merited particular Notice, the former is appointed Assistant to the Director of the Laboratory, and the latter confirmed in his Post of Adjutant, to which he was appointed on the Expedition.

" Lieutenants Waddington, Bannatyne, Macpherson, and Burchall, having also distinguished themselves in the Action of the 12th, we shall be glad to give those Officers further Proofs of our Sense of their good Behaviour when Opportunities offer; and it is now unanimously resolved to give our particular Thanks in the public Orders of this Garrison.

" Resolved unanimously, That our Thanks in general be given to the Whole of the Officers whose Behaviour has been commended in the above Resolutions; and if any Instance of particular Good Behaviour has escaped our Notice, we will with great Pleasure rectify the Omission.

" Resolved unanimously, That our Thanks be given to the Six Companies of Grenadier Sepoys that composed the Rear Division under Captain Hartley, for their gallant Behaviour on the 12th ultimo; and that Badges be given them to commemorate the Honour they gained on that Occasion.

" As in India Service in general, and particularly in our small Army, the Charge and Responsibility of each Captain is very great, and most dangerous Consequences may arise from improper Persons being promoted to that Rank, Resolved unanimously, and it must accordingly be signified to the Army, That the Lieutenants will not in future be promoted in Rotation to the Rank of Captains, either in the Infantry or Artillery, unless they shall be judged fully qualified for that Station."

Bombay Gen.
Conf. 17th
Feby 1779.

And Your Committee find, that on the 17th of February 1779, the Select Committee presented to the Governor and Council the military Commissions which they had deemed it for the Good of the Service to grant to particular Officers; but the Select Committee did not think it proper to explain their Reasons for having granted the said Commissions, when it was recommended to the Board to sign them.

And Your Committee find the following Minutes entered by Two Members of the Board, who were not Members of the Select Committee.

" Messrs. Ramsay and Moore deliver in the following Minutes on the Occasion; and the other Members declare, that by signing the Commissions they do not mean to take any Share of Responsibility for these Appointments.

" Mr. Ramsay signs the Commissions now presented to the Board, because the Select Committee command it as necessary for the Good of the Service, and because he thinks it will be agreeable to the Honourable Company, that the Board should co-operate with the Committee in every Measure which may be thought conducive to their Interest; but as these Commissions appear to Mr. Ramsay to be a Deviation from the established Rules of the Service, and contrary to the express Orders of the Company, and as the Committee have not been pleased to communicate to the Board the Motives which have induced them to grant them, Mr. Ramsay cannot possibly be a Judge of the Propriety or Necessity of the Measures, and therefore disclaims every Degree of Responsibility for the same, more especially as he is clearly of Opinion, from the 48th Paragraph of the Company's Instructions to the Governor General and Council at Bengal, to which the other Presidencies are directed to conform, that no Board in India have a Power to grant a Field Officer's Commission.

" On this Occasion Mr. Ramsay begs Leave to remark the very disagreeable Predicament he and the other Members of the Board may be subjected to, by the Select Committee determining on Measures to which, as in the Instance now before us, it is necessary to have the Sanction of the Board's Signature, though the Members are deprived of the Means of judging of the Propriety of such Measures. Mr. Ramsay, for his own Part, has not a Doubt that the Power of granting Commissions alone rests with the Governor and Council; and consequently that all Appointments should originate with them, except in particular Instances, where, in the Course of military Operations under the immediate Direction of the Committee, it may become necessary to distinguish Merit. This Mr. Ramsay supposes to be the Case at present; but then he is of Opinion the Necessity of it should be explained to the Board, and they become the Judges; for it seems absurd to suppose a Member of the Board can be obliged to give his Sanction to a Measure on which he has not been consulted.

" The Orders for the Institution of the Select Committee are certainly in such general Terms as may admit of their being construed in the very extensive Sense the Members seem to have taken them. They are to transact all political, military, and naval Affairs, and likewise all such as may require Secrecy. These are, no Doubt, very indefinite Orders; but Mr. Ramsay, taking the Spirit and not the Letter of the Institution, conceives they are meant to extend only to such military and naval Affairs as may depend on political Measures, which the honourable Company very wisely think it proper to confine to a few, and by no Means intended to throw the whole military Detail of the Establishment into the Committee's Department. To effect this, the Mutiny Act must necessarily be repealed, or at least amended; and the Court of Directors must have seen the Necessity of revoking former Orders, whereby the *supreme military Power* is expressly vested in the Governor and Council, and they required to sign all Commissions. Had they meant to transfer these Powers to the Committee, they most certainly would have said so in express Terms, and not have taken it for granted, that the Appointment of the Committee would set aside all former Orders on the Subject. Mr. Ramsay requests this his Opinion may stand recorded; at the same Time declaring, that he will at all

A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

Times, when called upon, co-operate in carrying into Execution all Measures which the Committee may deem for the Company's Interest."

" Mr. Moore begs it may be minuted, that he signs the Commissions now presented to the Board by the Members of the Select Committee for signing, from the following Principles :

" 1st. Because he has not a Doubt but the Members of the Select Committee, by giving the Commissions they now give to Colonel Hartley, Captain Dawson, and Captain Rattray, are convinced that it is necessary for the Good of the Service that such Commissions should be given, and that they are given as Rewards of distinguished Merit.

" 2d. Because the Honourable the Court of Directors, in their Commands of the 10th April 1778, to the Board at large, express themselves, after appointing the present Select Committee for transacting all political, military, and naval Affairs, as follows :

" We direct, that all Orders and Instructions which shall be issued by our said Select Committee, be issued in the Name of the President and Select Committee; and that all such Orders be implicitly obeyed by every Person in our Service, or enjoying our Protection, civil or military, on Pain of Suspension, or of forfeiting our License and Protection."

" Mr. Moore further begs it may be minuted, that from the closest Consideration of the Power vested in the Select Committee, as above recited, he is of Opinion that the Select Committee are alone authorized to grant all military Commissions whatever, they alone being responsible for granting them. The Commissions now before the Board are, to Mr. Moore, Proofs that the Select Committee think themselves so authorized. Mr. Moore, therefore, his signing Commissions without being consulted as to the Propriety of granting them, Mr. Moore not only thinks unnecessary, but absurd, because it fixes his Name to a Measure which consequently carries with it the Appearance of Approval. "

" When Mr. Draper presented Lieutenant Colonel Dagon's Commission to the Board for signing, which Commission was given by the Select Committee, Mr. Moore then mentioned to Mr. Draper, that as the Select Committee had granted the Commission, he thought the Select Committee alone should sign it. Mr. Moore signed it, however, to avoid the Appearance of Singularity, because he thought the Occasion an urgent one, and because he never wishes to enter a Minute, whether of Dissent or Observation, unless compelled to it from the Duty which he owes to the Company, to the Public, and to himself.

" The Commissions were then signed."

And the Select Committee of Bombay have most earnestly solicited the Court's Confirmation of the Appointment of Captain Hartley as Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry, in order to convince the Army, that Support will be given to the Select Committee when the Good of the Service makes it requisite to distinguish particular Officers. The Select Committee are sorry to have acted contrary to the Court's Orders in the Promotion of Field Officers, but hope the Necessity of the Case will plead their Excuse; that on the Terms they are on with the Marattas, and at a Time of actual War with France, it would have been highly unjustifiable to have suffered their Military to remain for any Length of Time, without a commanding Officer qualified to preserve proper Discipline, or to lead them into the Field.

Letter from,
P. 113, 27^t
March 1779.

That the Times required an Officer who had more to plead than merely not having committed Faults; they wanted an Officer of active and approved Merit, on whose Ability and Conduct they could depend for the Execution of any Service committed to him.

That the Loss of Captain Stewart had been severely felt. That the Conduct of Captain Hartley, who on the Death of Captain Stewart succeeded to the Command of the advanced Division of the Army, did him Honour; that if his judicious and spirited Counsel had been pursued, and the Army moved up the Line to support him, instead of ordering him to retreat to the Line, there is Reason to believe that the Fortune of the Day might have secured our Honour, if not our Success; and that keeping his Ground till the inevitable Consequence of the Measure induced Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn to revoke his Order for retreating, was probably the chief Circumstance to which our Troops owed their Preservation.

Par. 122

Par. 123

That when Two chief Officers were under Censure for Conduct opposite to that which the Select Committee are bound to support, and to that Spirit which it is their Duty to encourage; when Seniority, maintained by any Means, is pleaded by so many Persons, and claims Promotion in Preference to distinguished Merit and Services; it is impossible for the Select Committee to produce those general and decisive Testimonies in Favour of their Assertions and Opinions which they always wish to accompany them; that in the present critical Circumstances their own Interest is too much complicated with that of the Public, to suffer them to be swayed by Motives of partial or private Regard; and while they are conscious of having been guided by the Abilities, Integrity, Temper, and general Estimation of the Person, they believe they have paid such Attention to the Company's Interest as their Duty exacted; and they rely on that Support which the Performance of Duty requires, and warrants them to hope for on the Occasion.

125

A P P E N D I X, N^o 130.

Extract of Letter from the Court of Directors to the Select Committee of Bombay, dated 12th April 1780,

Par. 1. Having duly attended to your Proceedings previous to the late Expedition towards Poona, we allow that your Resolution of the 21st of July was not improper, under the favourable Circumstances stated by you at that Period; but the Change which happened soon afterwards in the Situation of Ragoba's Friends, and the Lapse of Time, from the 21st of July to the 22d of November, rendered it extremely imprudent to undertake the Expedition at that Time.

2. The State of your Garrison, as represented by yourselves to Sir Edward Vernon in your Letter of the 8th of September 1778, could not warrant your sending so large a Force in Foreign Service at the Commencement of an European War, more especially when speedy Succour was rendered precarious, and consequently Succour very doubtful by the disagreeable Alteration which had happened in the Situation of Ragoba's Friends.

3. Under the above Circumstances the Undertaking was evidently become hazardous, and not to be justified; the Reasons urged by Mr. Draper against it were solid and judicious; and you ought certainly to have waited the Arrival, or near Approach of the Bengal Detachment, before you attempted to reinstate Ragoba at Poona.

4. And although we are willing to hope, for the Reasons offered by the Majority in Answer to Mr. Draper's Dissent, that you acted according to the best of your Judgment in undertaking to place Ragoba in the Regency at Poona in November 1778, we nevertheless consider you as having proceeded with great Indiscretion on that Occasion.

5. Your Appointment of a Member of the Select Committee, to accompany the Commander in Chief to Poona, was highly improper. By the Departure of the Commander in Chief and Mr. Carnac, the Governor having a casting Vote, became possessed in Fact of absolute Authority, for transacting all Political, Military, and Naval Affairs, and such as require Secrecy, at Bombay. And as this Transaction militated against the Letter and Spirit of the Court's Orders of the 10th of April 1778, the Appointment of a Member of the Select Committee at Bombay, to accompany the Commander in Chief to Poona, must have our Disapprobation; and we declare the Majority of the said Committee very reprehensible for their Conduct in that Respect. We find the Commander in Chief protested against the Measure; and we exempt Mr. Draper from this Censure, because, justly supposing it to be the Intent of the Company that none of the Civil Member, of the Committee should be detached from the Presidency, if the Commander in Chief were to be absent also, Mr. Draper very properly delivered his Opinion in the Select Committee accordingly.

6. We find the Amount of Money due from Ragoba to the Company, is stated on your quick Stock the 30th Day of April 1777, at Rupees 24,72,775.

7. Your Payment of 80,000 Rupees to Mr. Shaw's Executors, and your Loan of 4 Lacks to Ragoba, and 15,000 Rupees to his Servants, besides Arms and Military Stores furnished for his Use, were unjustifiable Measures; more especially as so large a Sum as 1,50,00 Rupees was sent with the Troops, and as Authority was also granted to the Commissary and Paymaster to pay Drafts on the Select Committee for their necessary Disbursements during the Expedition; and we find that Bills have actually been accepted on that Account, to the Amount of Rupees, 2,28,529: Unless, therefore, you shall be able to produce better Reasons for having made the above Loans, and Payment, amounting to 4,95,000 Rupees, than appear to us at present, you must expect to be made responsible to the Company for the said Amount.

8. As a Select Committee, your granting of Military Commissions was unwarrantable; your presenting them to the Council for signing, without stating your Reasons for having granted them, was an Indignity to the Board; and the Council are very blameable for not rejecting every Commission so presented by you as aforesaid.

9. Having noticed the above Particulars, we proceed to examine the Behaviour of such Persons as were immediately concerned in conducting the late Expedition towards Poona.

10. The first Object that strikes us, is the slow Progress of the Army. This we deem an irreparable Injury to the Service; and in this Respect the Conduct of the Commander in Chief appears extremely defective. The Consequence was obvious: The Enemy had full Opportunity to collect their Strength: The Friends of Ragoba, instead of being encouraged by the spirited Exertion of our Force to join his Standard, must, as we conceive, have been deterred from declaring in his Favour, by the Languor of our own Military Proceedings.

11. And upon the most impartial Review of the Conduct of the late Colonel, now Brigadier General Egerton, during the late disgraceful Expedition towards Poona, we are of Opinion, that it was such as rendered it highly improper for him to be continued in the Command of the Company's Forces at Bombay; we have therefore resolved, That he be dismissed from the Company's Service, and he is hereby dismissed accordingly.

12. In regard to Mr. Carnac, we are very sorry to find his Conduct not less exceptionable than that of Colonel Egerton.

13. We remark, that the Army was only 18 Miles, or about 2 Days March from the Summit of the Gauts, and about 16 Miles, or 2 Days March from Poona, on the 11th January, when Orders were given to march back towards Condolah: That Advice had just been received, of Mora-

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A P P E N D I X, N° 130.

ba's Horse being in the Conkan, to act in favour of Ragoba : That the Commissary had 18 Days Provisions in Store, and that Ragoba had promised a further Supply : That in the preceding Skirmish, the Enemy had been worsted, and compelled to retreat : That the Troops were in Spirits, and intrepid : That no Council of War was called at Tullagoan, to take the Sense of the Officers of the Army on the Necessity of retreating : That although the Order for the Retreat of the Army, on the 11th of January, was the joint Act of Mr. Carnac and Colonel Egerton, yet as Mr. Carnac had a casting Vote in the Poona Committee, and possessed in Fact supreme Authority in Camp at the Time, he was particularly responsible for that Measure.

14. It appears, by the Return of the Commanding Officer, that our Loss of Men in the Action of the 12th January, was not very great : The general Orders of the Day express his extreme Satisfaction with their gallant Behaviour in general. The Officers were publicly thanked for their cool and spirited Conduct ; and Captain Hartley was particularly distinguished for his Judgment as an Officer. It is allowed, that there were Ten Days Provision in Camp after the Action : It is asserted by the Select Committee, that the Officer last mentioned, declared, He could rely upon the Men he commanded ; and urged every Argument in favour of forcing a Retreat, rather than to submit to the humiliating Terms prescribed by the Enemy. It cannot be doubted that Mr. Carnac continued in Possession of Authority without Controul, except to make Treaties. He was confident, if the Officers and Men did their Duty that the Army was sufficiently numerous, and so well provided with Artillery, as to be able to force their Way back against all Opposition. He had no Doubt but the Attempt ought to be made. His Words are, "at all Events, " rather than submit to the Terms prescribed by the Enemy ;" yet under all Circumstances rather than press a Retreat, he ventured to pledge the English Faith in the most solemn and sacred Manner, for the Observance of Treaties, of which he owns he did not at the Time expect a Confirmation. He stipulated to obtain the Governor's Dustick for delivering up the Company's Possessions to the Marattas ; and gave Hostages for the due Performance of extraordinary Agreements, under mental Reservations and pre-conceived Ideas that they were of no Validity, and would never be ratified by his Superiors.

15. Notwithstanding the despicable Character given of the Troops by Mr. Carnac, in his Letter to Governor Hornby, when the Army was on its Return to Bombay, we find that he afterwards subscribed to an Exception, which in our Opinion would have fully justified his issuing the most positive Orders for the Army to attempt to force a Retreat from Wurgoan to Bombay, rather than submit to the disgraceful Conditions prescribed by the Enemy.

16. In your Letter of the 27th of March 1779, Par. 128, which is signed by Mr. Carnac, it is stated, that Captain Hartley on that trying Occasion, notwithstanding the Contagion of bad Example, insisted upon it, that he could depend on the Men which he had commanded : That he actually put a Stop at once to Desertion so far as the Limits of his Command extended ; that when consulted, he urged every Argument to attempt the forcing of a Retreat, rather than submit to the humiliating Terms prescribed by the Enemy ; that he even formed and presented Colonel Cockburn the necessary Disposition for conducting the Retreat, and for avoiding Inconveniences resulting from a Night March, and the Division of the Troops.

17. And we do not find that any Censure has been passed on Mr. Carnac at Bombay ; nor that any Enquiry has been made by the Select Committee into his Conduct and Behaviour during the late Expedition.

18. And upon the most impartial Review of the whole Conduct of Mr. Carnac during the late Expedition towards Poona, and after duly considering all the Circumstances relative thereto, we have resolved, That John Carnac, Esquire, be dismissed from his Office, as one of the Council and Select Committee of Bombay, and he is hereby dismissed accordingly.

19. The Charge brought by Governor Hornby against Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn was very proper ; but we do not find it noticed on your Proceedings on that Occasion that Captain Hartley had given a different Opinion, concerning the Propriety of attempting to force a Retreat from Wurgoan ; nor that you have, in any Stage of the Pursuit, informed Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn of your being in Possession of that Fact ; which certainly you ought to have done. We find Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn has acknowledged, that he gave the written Opinion contained in the Governor's Charge against him : And upon the most mature Consideration of his Conduct, we have resolved to dismiss Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn from the Service of the Company, and he is hereby dismissed accordingly.

20. We are sorry to observe, that in appointing Captain James Hartley to be a Lieutenant Colonel of Infantry on the Bombay Establishment, you have concurred unanimously in a direct Breach of the Company's Orders ; but as you have represented the Merit and Services of Lieutenant Colonel Hartley in a Light to very favourable for that Officer, we have resolved, rather than degrade an Officer whose Ability and Merit seems universally acknowledged, that Lieutenant Colonel Hartley shall remain the youngest of that Rank at Bombay ; but that he shall, from the Receipt of this Letter at Bombay, receive the Pay and Allowances of Captain of Infantry only, until such meritorious Officers as have been superseded by his Promotion, shall have risen in regular Succession above him, to the Rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

21. Having taken into our particular and most serious Consideration the State of the Company's Military Force at your Settlement, we have resolved to appoint an able Officer to the Command of the Troops at Bombay.

A P P E N D I X, N° 131.

22. And having the highest Opinion of the Zeal, Experience, and Military Abilities of Colonel Thomas Goddard, we have thought fit to appoint Colonel Goddard Commander in Chief of the Company's Forces at Bombay, and granted him a Commission of Brigadier General in our Service.

23. We have also requested His Majesty to grant a Commission of Brigadier General, with local Rank to Colonel Thomas Goddard, which we doubt not will be granted accordingly.

24. We feel the most sensible Concern for the Situation of Mr. William Gamul Farmer and Lieutenant Stewart, as Hostages for the Performance of the Convention of Wurgaon; but as we have no Doubt, but that Measures will have been taken, either by you or by our Governor General and Council, to procure their Liberty before this Letter can reach you, we for the present only add, that early Information of their Enlargement will afford us very great Satisfaction.

25. We direct that no additional Pay or Emolument be allowed to Lieutenants Dawson, Lindrum, Bowles, and Piché, in consequence of Brevets granted to those Officers. By a future Opportunity we shall consider the Propriety of revoking or of finally confirming the said Brevets.

26. It is our Pleasure, that Mr. Daniel Draper be Second of Council, and of the Select Committee at Bombay: And as a further Testimony of our Approbation of the Conduct of Mr. Draper, it is also our Pleasure, that Mr. Draper do succeed, and we hereby expressly appoint him to succeed to the Office of President and Governor of Bombay, upon the Death, Removal, or Resignation of Governor Hornby.

27. It is our Order, that Brigadier General Goddard have a constant Seat as Third in our said Council and Select Committee. We likewise direct, that Mr. Henry More be the Fourth Member of our Select Committee at Bombay.

28. As a further Mark of our Approbation of the Conduct of Brigadier General Goddard, we have directed, that the Pay and Allowances received by him from Bengal, as Commander in Chief of the Detachment sent from that Settlement, be continued to him, and paid by our Governor General and Council, so long as those Troops shall remain under General Goddard's Command on the Western Side of India; he must also receive the Pay and Allowances of Third of our Council and Select Committee at Bombay; but if our Governor General and Council shall recall the Bengal Detachment, the Pay and Allowances received by General Goddard on that Account must be discontinued, and cease immediately upon the Return of the said Detachment, as it will then be no longer under his Authority or Command; and after that Period, General Goddard must receive the Pay and Allowances of our Commander in Chief of our Troops at Bombay.

A P P E N D I X, N° 131.

At a Committee of Secrecy of the East India Company, Friday 31st July 1778;

P R E S E N T,

Sir George Wombwell, Baronet, Chairman,

Sir William James, Baronet, Deputy,

John Purling,

and } Esquires.

William Devaynes, }

R E S O L V E D, That in Addition to the Military Force promised by Administration, a further Supply of Troops is necessary for the Protection of the Company's Settlements; and that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman do attend His Majesty's Ministers, to request that such additional Supply of Troops may be granted for that Purpose as to His Majesty in His great Wisdom shall seem fit.

Ordered, That Draft of Instructions to Bombay be prepared relative to Ragoba, to the Views of the French, and to the Situation of Affairs in that Part of India.

Thursday 13th August 1778.

At a Committee of Secrecy; PRESENT,

Sir George Wombwell, Baronet, Chairman,

Sir William James, Baronet, Deputy,

Mr. Sullivan,

Mr. Devaynes,

Mr. Purling,

Mr. Roberts,

Mr. Booth.

Read

A P P E N D I X; N° 131:

Read the following Draft of Instructions to Bombay. (See Page 46 of the Sixth Report.)

N. B. The above was dated the 31st of August, and signed

G. Wombwell,
W^m James;
Will. Devaynes.

Ordered, That the foregoing Instructions to Bombay be transmitted to Lord Weymouth, with the following Letter :

My Lord,

In Addition to the Orders and Instructions sent over Land to our Settlements in India, a Draft whereof we had the Honour of transmitting to your Lordship with our Letter of the 11th of April last, we now beg Leave to lay before you the Draft of a further Letter to be written to our President and Council of Bombay, if it shall be honoured with His Majesty's Approbation.

The Advices of our Servants respecting the Proceedings of the French in India, are already before your Lordship; and therefore we have to request, that you will be pleased to communicate to us His Majesty's Pleasure on the inclosed Orders and Instructions immediately, a Messenger being ready to proceed over Land to Bombay, by the Way of Bussorah, as we conceive it essentially necessary that no Time be lost, if the Measure be adopted.

We have the Honour to be,

East India House,
13th August 1778.

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient,
most humble Servants,

G. Wombwell,
W^m James,
W. Devaynes.

Read, and approved unanimously, the following Draft of a Letter to Lord Weymouth :

My Lord,

The Secret Committee of the Court of Directors of the East India Company having on the 31st ultimo resolved,

" That in Addition to the military Force promised by Administration, a further Supply of Troops is necessary for the Protection of the Company's Settlements; and that the Chairman and Deputy Chairman do attend His Majesty's Ministers, to request that such additional Supply of Troops may be granted for that Purpose, as to His Majesty in His great Wisdom shall seem fit."

And the Deputy Chairman having, on the 1st Instant, in consequence of the said Resolution, laid the Committee's humble Request before your Lordship, you will permit us further to entreat, that the King's Pleasure may be speedily communicated thereon, in order that proper Dispositions may be made for the Reception, and Accommodation on board our Ships, of such Troops as His Majesty shall be graciously pleased to grant, for the Protection of the Company's Settlements.

We have the Honour to be,

East India House,
13th August 1778.

My Lord,
Your Lordship's most obedient,
and most faithful humble Servants,
G. Wombwell,
W^m James,
W. Devaynes.

Ordered, That the above Letter be wrote fair, and transmitted to Lord Weymouth immediately.

Wednesday, 26th August 1778.

At a Committee of Secrecy; PRESENT;

Sir William James, Baronet, Deputy Chairman,
Mr. Devaynes, Mr. Roberts, and Mr. Sulivan.

Read the following Letter from Lord Viscount Weymouth, dated the 22d Instant:

" Secret.

" St. James's, 22d August 1778.

" Gentlemen,

" Your Letters of the 13th instant were duly received, and laid before the King.

" The Draft of your secret Letter to Bombay has been taken into Consideration. It is extremely
RE. VI. (2) " expedient

A P P E N D I X, N° 131.

"expedient that every Means should be used to prevent the French from extending their Influence at Poona, and getting any Footing in that Part of India; but whether the taking Ragoba by the Hand is the most proper Means, must be left to your Determination.

"With respect to your Application for an additional military Force, I have in Command to acquaint you, that in case the Company will pay the Expence of raising and maintaining a Battalion, His Majesty will have no Objection that such Means may be proposed for that Purpose, as you shall see likely to have Effect.

"Chairman and Deputy Chairman
"of the East India Company."

"I am, Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient humble Servant,
"Weymouth,"

The Committee having taken his Lordship's Letter into their serious Consideration, it is upon a Question resolved unanimously, That it is not necessary, in consequence thereof, to make any Alteration in the Secret Letter proposed to be sent to Bombay.

Ordered, That the Letter to Bombay be forthwith put in Cypher, and prepared for signing.

Ordered, That Letters be prepared in Cypher to the Governor General and Council at Fort William, and to the Select Committee at Fort Saint George, transmitting Copies of the Committee's Orders to Bombay, and enjoining the strictest Attention thereto.

27th August 1778.

Wrote the following Letter to Sir George Wombwell, by Order of the Deputy Chairman:

Sir,

The Committee of Secrecy, assisted by Mr. Sullivan, have resolved that no Alteration shall be made in the Letter proposed to be sent to Bombay, and directed that it be put in Cypher immediately.

As the Powers of the Committee of Secrecy had expired, and are now revived, a short Letter on that Subject has been proposed and signed by the Court; Copy whereof I beg Leave to enclose for your Perusal.

Sir William James has this Morning had an Interview with Lord North, on the Subject of that Part of Lord Weymouth's Letter which states the Conditions on which an additional Battalion of Men may be raised for the Service of the Company. Extracts of Proceedings have been selected, in order to ascertain the specific Allowance heretofore made, when His Majesty's Troops served in India. These Extracts have just been transmitted to Lord North by the Deputy Chairman, and a Copy is preparing for your Inspection.

As the Select Committee at Bombay have not been informed from hence of the Orders sent by the Committee of Secrecy to Fort Saint George and Bengal, the 15th of April last, a Copy of those Orders is now prepared in Cypher, in order to be transmitted by the intended Conveyance to Bombay. You will also receive herewith Draft of short Letter to Bengal and to Fort Saint George, covering the present Orders wrote in Cypher to Bombay, and enjoining Attention thereto. This Draft waits your Approbation, and it approved will be signed by the Committee of Secrecy only.

The enclosed Letter to your Address was received this Afternoon by the Hawke from Bombay.

The Substance of the Papers sent to Lord North is, that the Company have allowed Levy Money, £.3 per Head; also a Sum of Money to the Colonels of marching Regiments, to enable them to replace the Cloathing and Accoutrements of non-commissioned Officers and private Men taken from their respective Regiments; also an Allowance for the Passage of such Officers and Men as went on board the Company's own Ships; also an Allowance to the Field Officers for a Table, &c. in India; and finally, such additional Pay to both Officers and Privates as rendered their whole Allowance equal to the Pay and Battalions to the Company's Troops in India.

I have the Honour to be, with the most perfect Consideration,

Sir,

East India House,
27th August 1778.

Your most obedient and faithful humble Servant,
Sam. Wilks,

Downing Street, Monday 31st August 1778.

At a Committee of Secrecy; PRESENT,

Sir George Wombwell, Baronet, Chairman,
Sir William James, Baronet, Deputy,
William Devaynes, Esquire.

The Committee being met to sign Instructions to the several Presidencies in India, the following were signed accordingly:

Letter

A P P E N D I X; N° 131.

Letter from the Committee of Secrecy to the President and Select Committee at Bombay, dated this Day; also

Letter to the Governor General and Council at Fort William, dated the same Day; also, Letter to the President and Select Committee at Fort Saint George, dated the same Day.

Our President and Select Committee at Fort Saint George.

Enclosed we transmit you Copy of a Letter wrote in Cypher to the President and Select Committee of Bombay, dated this Day, to which we enjoin your strict Attention. The like Copy has been sent to our Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal, with the same Injunction. And as we may suppose that our Orders of the 15th April last will have been duly executed before this comes to Hand, we can have no Doubt of your Ability and Readiness to co-operate with our said President and Select Committee of Bombay, as shall enable them to accomplish effectually the Measures recommended to their immediate Consideration.

We transmit for your Information Extract of a Letter from our Governor and Deputy Governor of Saint Helena, dated the 20th of May 1778; also one from Captain Douglas, dated the 10th of June 1778; and from our Secretary, of this Day's Date, to the Agent and Council at Bufforah.

We are

Your loving Friends,

G. Wombwell,

W^m James,

W^m Devaynes.

London, 31st August 1778.

The Letter to Bengal is similar to the above, except the following Addition :

Postscript. As Hostilities have actually commenced between Great Britain and France, and as we think it probable that our Servants on the Coast of Coromandel may stand in need of Assistance from you, we direct that you fail not, upon their Application, to afford them such Assistance, in Money or otherwise, as the Exigence of the Case may require.

G. Wombwell,

W^m James,

W. Devaynes.

Ordered, That the above Dispatches be delivered to Lieutenant Colonel James Capper.

Sir William James desires, that the following Extracts may be entered upon the Minutes of the Committee :

Extract of a Letter from John Purling, Esquire, to Sir William James; dated Weymouth, 29th August 1778.

" I am glad you persevere in sending your Dispatches over Land.

" Your Orders relative to Ragoba are so guarded that, trusted to the Execution of Prudence, I think no Harm can come of them; and I must say the Conduct of the Governor and Council of Bombay, in all Matters concerning the Marattas, has been extremely prudent and sensible."

Extract of a Letter from Robert Gregory, Esquire, to Sir William James; dated Cool Lodge, near Gort, Ireland, 12th August 1778.

" I wish we could bring about an Alliance with Hyder Ally, and place Ragoba on the Musnud of Poona; we should then have little to fear from the French on the Continent of India."

List of Packet to Bombay, by Colonel Capper.

N° 1. Letter from the Secret Committee, directed to the Honourable the President and the Select Committee, at Bombay, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.

N° 2. Letter from D° to the Honourable the Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.

N° 3. Letter from D° to the President and Select Committee at Fort Saint George, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.

A P P E N D I X, N° 131.

N° 4. Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Select Committee at Bombay, dated 26th August 1778.
N° 5. Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Saint Helena, dated 20th May 1778.
D° from Captain Douglas, dated 10th June 1778.
D° from Peter Michell, Esquire, to the Agent and Council at Bussorah, dated 31st August 1778; with an Enclosure containing a List of Shipping taken up for 1778.
N° 6. Copy of a Letter from the Committee of Secrecy to the Governor General and Council at Bengal, dated 15th April 1778.
N° 7. Copy of a Letter from the Committee of Secrecy to the Select Committee at Fort Saint George, dated 15th April 1778.
N° 8. Copy of a Circular Letter to all the Presidencies, dated 15th April 1778.
N° 9. Copy of a Letter from the Committee of Secrecy to the Select Committee at Bombay, dated 15th April 1778.

List of Packet to Bengal by Colonel Capper.

N° 1. Letter from the Secret Committee, directed to the Honourable the Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.
N° 2. Letter from D° to the President and Select Committee of Bombay, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.
N° 3. Letter from the Court of Directors to the Governor General and Council, dated 26th August 1778.
N° 4. Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Saint Helena to the Court of Directors, dated 20th May 1778.
D° from Captain Douglas, dated 10th June 1778.
D° from Peter Michell, Esquire, to the Agent and Council at Bussorah, dated 31st August 1778; with an Enclosure containing a List of Shipping taken up for 1778.
N° 5. Letter from the Secret Committee, directed to the Honourable the Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.

List of Packet to Fort Saint George by Colonel Capper.

N° 1. Letter from the Secret Committee, directed to the Honourable the President and Select Committee at Fort Saint George, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.
N° 2. Letter from D° to the President and Select Committee at Bombay, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.
N° 3. Letter from the Court of Directors to the President and Select Committee at Fort Saint George, dated 26th August 1778.
N° 4. Extract of a Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Saint Helena to the Court of Directors, dated 20th May 1778.
D° from Captain Douglas, dated 10th June 1778.
D° from Peter Michell, Esquire, to the Agent and Council at Bussorah, dated 31st August 1778; with an Enclosure containing a List of Shipping taken up for 1778.
N° 5. Letter from the Secret Committee, directed to the Honourable the Governor General and Council at Fort William in Bengal, dated 31st August 1778. Wrote in Cypher.

Extract of Letter from the Governor and Deputy Governor of Saint Helena, dated 20th May 1778.

" Having received Intelligence from Captain Moutray, that on his outward-bound Voyage to this Island, he received Information at the Island of Palma, that there had been Two American Privateers lately there; the one a Two-Deck Ship, and the other a Frigate; and on his Arrival at Saint Jago, he was further informed, that the said Two Privateers had also been there, and had left that Island Fourteen Days before his Arrival, giving out that they were bound to the Southward.
" This Intelligence we thought necessary to communicate to Captain Frazer, Commander of the Earl of Mansfield, by Letter, Copy of which goes herein enclosed for your Information.

John Scottowe,
Dan. Corneille."

A P P E N D I X, N° 131, 132.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Peter Douglas of the Ship Queen, to Mr. Secretary Michell, dated St. Helena, 10th June 1778, received by a Danish China Ship 26th August 1778.

" I beg you will acquaint the Honourable Court, that a few Days before the 17th May, when I parted Company with the Southampton and Nassau, in Latitude 27° South, all well, we spoke with ~~one French~~ East India-man from L'Orient, but last from Madeira, who informed us of Two Ships of considerable Force, commanded by a Captain La Roche, had sailed from Boston to the Southward, which he was informed were intended to cruise off Johanna."

Extract of Letter from Mr. Secretary Michell to the Company's Agent and Council, for all the Affairs of the English Nation at Bussorah.

A general List of Ships entertained to this Time for the Company's Service is sent under this Cover; that you communicate Copies thereof in the speediest Manner to their several Settlements, by such Conveyances as shall offer from your Port.

The Situation of public Affairs, since you was last advised thereof, renders a Rupture between the British and French Crown inevitable.

His Majesty's Fleet, under the Command of Admiral Keppel, has actually had a smart Engagement with the French, on the 27th July last; and though the latter were compelled to retreat into Brest, you are nevertheless to make the Cautions given by the Court's Orders, in my Letter of the 15th of April last, the Rule for exerting yourselves, in order to secure the Property and Concerns of the Company committed to your Care.

The Court having received Intelligence of some Cruizers said to have been lately on their Way to the East Indies, Copy thereof is inclosed for your Notice; and that you may immediately make the same known to all our Presidencies, in order that the Company's Shipping and the Country Trade may be put well on their Guard against the Designs and Operations of those Cruizers.

A P P E N D I X, N° 132.

Letter from the Governor General and Council, 15th October 1778.

To the Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Gentlemen of the Select Committee,
Bombay.

Received at
Bombay 18 Decr
1778. Sel. Comf

Gentlemen,

We have not received any Letters from you since the Date of your Dispatches by the Terrible of the 25th July last; but we have been informed, by Letters received from Mr. Lewis, dated the 6th August, that Nanna Furnese had effected the Imprisonment of Morabah and Buchaba, by Means of a Present of Three Lacks of Rupees given to Madjee Scindia; that Nannah, Succaram, Scindia, Holkar, Hurry Punt, &c. had assembled their Forces on a Plain near Poona; and that the Durbar were concerting Schemes to oppose and distress the Detachment; and that they had actually circulated Orders to the different Raja's, to practise every secret and underhand Means in their Power to effect this Purpose.

We advised you in our last of the Appointment of Mr. Elliot to proceed to the Court of Moodajee Boosla, the Rajah of Berar, with Instructions to negotiate and conclude a Treaty of Alliance with that Chief; but we are now concerned to inform you of the Demise of Mr. Elliot on his Way to Nagapore, at a Place called Sarungar. The Rajah having expressed great Satisfaction at the Overtures which we made for a Connection with him by this Deputation; and being, as we have every Reason to believe, firm in his Attachment to the English, we conclude, as soon as he hears of the unfortunate Event of Mr. Elliot's Death, that he will take an active Part in prosecuting the intended Negotiation either by deputing a proper Minister to us, on his Part, or by soliciting our Alliance on such Terms as may prove a general Advantage to the Company's Possessions. For these Reasons, we do not mean to appoint any Person to succeed Mr. Elliot, until our Advices from the Rajah shall enable us to determine on the Expediency of that Measure.

We have thought it incumbent on us to remove Colonel Leslie from the Command of the Detachment of Forces, which was ordered to march for the Support and Assistance of your Presidency, on account of the little Progress it had made under him; as we understand that he was advanced no further than Rajigur on the 25th ultimo; and of his manifest Disobedience also of our positive Orders,

REP. VI.

(R)

in

A P P E N D I X, N° 132, 133.

in forming and concluding a Treaty of perpetual Peace and Friendship, in the Name of the Compt^r, with the Rajahs Gomaun and Comaua Sing, Chiefs of a Part of the Bundlecund District.

Colonel Thomas Goddard is now appointed to the chief Command of these Troops, and we have ordered him to prosecute his March without Loss of Time into Berar; where on his Arrival he will apply to Moodajee Boosla, and if that Chief shall agree to join him with a sufficient Body of Forces for the Purpose, he is to continue his Route in Conjunction with them, and to obey all Orders which he may receive from you; but if he shall not have received any fresh Directions for his March, and if the Rajah shall decline or refuse to grant his Assistance, we have then vested in him a discretionary Power to suspend his Proceedings.

If the Plan which you had resolved to adopt, and to carry into Execution in September, for the Restoration of Ragoba, and which you notified to us in your Letter of the 25th July, still subsists; or if you shall have formed any other for the same End, consistently with the Terms which we have already prescribed for our Assent to that Measure; or if you shall judge a strong Reinforcement immediately and indispensably necessary to ensure the Safety of Bombay against a French Invasion, and shall deem it requisite and advisable, in either of these Cases, to command the Detachment at all Hazards to proceed further towards Bombay, even without a Junction of the Troops of any Power in Alliance with us; you will in such Cases, and such only, require Colonel Goddard to advance with it; but in all others you will give him Notice of your Intentions, and leave him to act under our Directions.

We dispatched the Morning Star in the Beginning of last Month to Fort Saint George, in consequence of the Request of the President and Council there; and we take the first Opportunity of the favourable Season for ordering the Terrible, which ought to have sailed in Company with the Morning Star, but was prevented by the Want of Men, to return to your Port.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Fort William,
15th October 1778.

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

A P P E N D I X, N° 133.

Letter from Governor General and Council to Bombay, 23d November 1778.

Gentlemen,

IN our Letter of the 16th instant we informed you, that we had thought it proper to invest Colonel Goddard with full Powers to conclude a Treaty with Moodajee Boosla, Rajah of Berar, on the Grounds of our Instructions to the late Mr. Elliot; of which we enclose a Copy for your Information. As the Event of his Negotiation is likely to cause a very speedy and essential Change in the Designs and Operations of the Detachment; and as the Plan which we have chosen to supply the Place of that originally recommended by you, has rendered it necessary that we should retain in our Hands the Means of effecting it; we hereby revoke the Power which we gave you in our Letter of the 15th ultimo, and shall direct the commanding Officer of the Detachment to obey only such Orders as he shall hereafter receive from us.

Although the Circumstances into which we have been thrown, by the Failure of the Plan for which the Detachment was originally formed, have rendered it necessary to make this Alteration in the Controul and Direction of it, our Intention is not to withdraw the Services of the Detachment entirely from the Support of any Measures which you may have formed in Reliance on them, if these Measures shall not prove incompatible with the Instructions given to Colonel Goddard, and with the Engagements which he may conclude in consequence of them: We shall therefore leave him still subject to your Instructions, under these Provisions; and request that you will communicate to him such Points as you may judge proper to be included in the Operations concerted with the Rajah of Berar.

We are,

Gentlemen,

Fort William,
23d November 1778.

Your most obedient humble Servants,

Warren Hastings,
Rich^d Barwell,
P. Francis,
Edw^d Wheler.

True Copies.

•Edw^d Ravenicroft,
Sect^r to the Select Comm^{ee}.

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

Bombay Select Consultations, 19th February 1779.

The President's Review of Maratta Affairs, and Resolutions proposed by him in consequence.

SINCE the first Advice of the unfortunate Issue of our late Expedition, my whole Time and Attention has been employed in a careful Review of our past Transactions with respect to Maratta Politics, in the Consideration of the Circumstances of our present Situation, and in forming such a Plan of Conduct as seems best adapted to meet the many Difficulties and Dangers that we may have to expect, and must guard against.

This last is so much my Object, that I neither intend to go into any Enquiry of the Causes of the Failure of our Hopes from the late Expedition, nor into any Justification of the first Undertaking. The Motives on which we determined on it were certainly no weak ones: They have been felt, acknowledged, and even pressed on us, both by the Governor General and Council; and within these few Days by the Honourable the Secret Committee, in their Dispatch of the 31st August. I am however well aware, that the Judgment that is to be given on Enterprizes of great Moment, must be expected to be formed from the Event; that Objections will hardly ever be wanting against Measures which have proved unsuccessful; and that hardly any Answer can be found that will satisfy Objections so supported. I think it best therefore for every Member, according to the Share he has had in this Business, to leave the public Proceedings and Records to justify or condemn his Opinions and Conduct, with a general Reference to the Candour of those who are to be our Judges, as to our Attention to the public Interest with which we are charged; the Steps we have taken for the Security of it; and the Cause to which our late Misfortune is to be attributed; the Remedy of which is the only Point I can now think of Moment, how much soever we may be concerned individually in the Approbation or Censure of our past Conduct.

Since the Removal of Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn from the Command of the Army, we have made some Promotions, and otherwise distinguished those Officers whose Merit is acknowledged to have been most conspicuous on the late Service. I hope this will produce a Spirit of Emulation, that will be of the greatest Advantage to the Army; and I trust we have now at the Head of the Infantry and Sepoys, a Gentleman who will distinguish himself in Garrison no less than he has done in the Field, by the strictest Attention to the Discipline and general Improvement of our Troops. I now propose further, that we apply to the Governor General and Council for a tried, experienced, and active Officer, of the Rank of Colonel, to take the Command of the Troops on this Establishment; that it be represented to them how very material the Choice of such an Officer is; and that we rather wish them to promote to the above-mentioned Rank an Officer whose Merit they entertain an high Opinion of, than to be guided in their Appointment by any other Rule. It would likewise be a considerable Advantage and Improvement to the Service, if they would furnish us with a Major and Five or Six Captains of Infantry, all choice and experienced Officers, whom we might re-place with Officers of the same Rank, whose Want of Experience is the only Objection to them. Our Troops would then, I think, be on a Footing equal to any Service that might be required of them; which I fear has not for some Time past been the Case. Whatever is to follow from the doubtful State we are now in with the Marattas, I think we should thus, even with our present Force alone, be well prepared for a defensive War with them; and prepared it is necessary we should be, as soon as possible.

The first and most important Object of our Attention Abroad is to endeavour to secure Colonel Goddard and his Army from Accidents: By a Letter I have had from him, dated the 26th January, I find he was then within Four Days March of Barampore, where he intended to stop some Days for further Advices from us, and to determine on his Route. I have since had certain Intelligence of his Arrival on the 29th at Barampore, where I flatter myself he will be secure from all hostile Attempts: I presume that having so considerable a City at his Command, he will be able to furnish his Troops with every Thing they may stand in need of for a long Time, and that no Enemy therefore will be able to dislodge him, while he remains there. He should I think be advised immediately of the present State of Affairs, as far as we are acquainted with them, among the Maratta Chiefs, who certainly do not seem united enough at present to concur in so distant a March as to Barampore, and each of whom has probably too important Concerns to manage near Poona to accept a Command at so great a Distance, and which they all may think too dangerous for any one to undertake alone. But however this may be, I would leave it to himself to take his own Opportunity for coming on to Surat or Broach; informing him at the same Time of the urgent Occasion this Presidency has for his Army, and how much we think our Safety may depend on its safe and speedy Arrival, together with the Measures we are taking to facilitate this important Purpose.

The Consideration of the Conduct to be pursued with the Maratta Chiefs opens a wider Field, through which, however perplexed it may be, we are now to find our Way—nor is there any Time for

for Procrastination : The Marattas are aiming at this very Moment to strip us of every Thing we are in Possession of, to the very Edge of our Island : They are assembling Troops in the Neighbourhood of Caranja and Salsette, and are said to meditate an immediate Invasion of those Islands, if they are not peaceably yielded up to them, together with all the Cessions stipulated for in the Convention of Woorgon. I have already given Gunnis Punt, the Agent of Nannah (or of the Durbar as he is called) a general Answer : That his Master must have known at the Time the Convention was made, that it was not valid : That Mr. Carnac and Colonel Egerton had previously declared so to him : That he had besides been long before informed of, and knew by his own Experience, the controlling Power of the Governor General and Council in Matters of this Kind : That I had informed that Board of the Convention, and would do nothing further in it without their Orders.

What may be the Resolution of Nannah in consequence of this Answer, I do not know, but have no Doubt of its being hostile to us, if he can but prevail on the Chiefs, who have been acting with him against Ragoba to support him in a War against us : We have therefore no Time to lose to guard against such an Union ; nor do I think that in such an Emergency as this, we can defer coming to the necessary Resolutions, under Colour of waiting for Orders from the Governor General and Council, without being wanting to the Duty we owe to the Company and to ourselves ; nor do I think it would be a fair and consistent Conduct towards the Governor General and Council themselves, who have certainly furnished us in their Letters of the 23d March and 17th August, with ample Powers for the War we have begun, and may justly expect from us that we exert ourselves in extricating our Affairs from their present Embarrassments, and not supinely throw on them Difficulties which it is our Duty to meet and if possible overcome.

The War was undertaken with the most flattering Expectations of Assistance from some of the most powerful Maratta Chiefs ; of these, after our Troops had been near Two Months in the Field, and had advanced almost to the Capital, not one espoused our Cause ; it was thought desperate ; and indeed, seems to have been so ; but had our Troops after all been brought back to Bombay in spite of all Opposition, as I make no Doubt they might have been, the Respect with which every Maratta in the Enemy's Army must have felt himself impressed at the Instance of our Forces unaided by any Ally, would have been an Advantage equal almost to Victory ; and might shortly perhaps have led to such an Effect, as to leave us little to regret in our present Disappointment. Humiliating as the Terms are, to which our Troops submitted, I am happy to say, I can still perceive we are not fallen wholly into Contempt. Left as we now are, to wage War alone, the Credit we yet preserve must be employed, and Trial made what new Friends it will procure us, and what Enemies it may detach from the Confederacy we have drawn on us as the Allies of Ragoba.

Before I enter into Particulars with regard to these Objects, I must desire the Purpose for which our last Treaty with Ragoba was calculated ; the principal Consideration on which the Governor General and Council approved our Plan ; and the evident Motive of the Orders now before us, from the Honourable the Select Committee, may be kept in View. I hardly need say, I allude to the dangerous Connections forming or formed between Nannah and the French ; and the absolute Necessity we were under on the Principle of Self-preservation to attempt to remove from the Chief Administration of the Maratta Empire a Minister whose pernicious Designs if ever ripened into Action, might end in an Expulsion from all our valuable Possessions in this Part of the World. This Necessity appears to me still the same, and ought still to be the leading Principles of our Conduct. The Means we have to effect our Purpose are indeed at present inadequate, but they are not perhaps unattainable ; and while the Possibility of accomplishing so important a Point exists, I think no Exertion is to be omitted to effect or facilitate it.

When the Refusal of the principal Officer to charge himself with the Conduit of our Army to Bombay, and the Countenance given to this Refusal by the Commander in Chief of our Forces, made it necessary to enter into some Sort of Treaty with the Enemy for the safe Return of the Troops, the first Application was made to Nannah, as the ostensible Minister. The Surrender of Ragoba's Person at first was the only Condition demanded of us ; but on finding that he had already made Terms with Scindia, Nannah insisted on Articles still more humiliating, and at last seemed determined to accept of none but the most rigorous of all ; viz. the Detention of the whole Army as Hostages for the Performance of the Terms on which their Lives were spared. On this pressing Occasion, it was thought of applying to Madjee Scindia, whose Influence in the Maratta Durbar was reported considerable, and whose Connections now formed with Ragoba, it is to be hoped, would dispose him to shew some Sort of Regard to so faithful an Ally as the English had proved themselves to Ragoba.

Mr. Holmes was accordingly sent out to him : Every thing immediately shewed how sensibly Madjee Scindia was flattered with this Acknowledgment of his Consequence and Authority, which was at once discovered to be supreme. Mr. Holmes, in his Way to Scindia's Tent, was stopped by a Picket Guard of Nannah's Troops, who would have persuaded, and even forced him, to go to Nannah instead of Scindia. Mr. Holmes declared positively that he would and must go immediately to the latter. The Dispute lasted till Scindia sent down a Party of his own, who dispersed Nannah's People, and brought Mr. Holmes to him : He received Mr. Holmes with every Demonstration of Kindness and Civility ; and on his Representation of the Treatment Mr. Farmer met with from Nannah, to whom he had before been sent, and by whom he had been kept the whole Day, exposed in

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

the Open Bazar, with no other Covering than his Palanquin, from whence he had been obliged to write the Particulars of his Conversation with Nannah, and to wait the Answers of the Committee, Madjee Scindia immediately sent and conducted Mr. Farmer to his own Quarters; and desired that he, as well as Mr. Holmes, would regard himself as his Guest.

The Terms to which we must submit were so far known, that tolerable ones could no longer be demanded for us; but we were however obliged to Madjee Scindia for making them as easy as he could. He attempted to do, without he had absolutely declared against the rest of the Maratta Chiefs, and joined us. It was owing to him that the Point of detaining the whole Army as Hostages was given up, and by that Means that we have it in our Power to disavow the Convention: This, together with Articles for the Surrender of the Cattle of Surat and Fort Victoria, and for the Payment of the Expences of the War, were actually sent by Nannah to Scindia, to be added to the Conditions imposed on us: Madjee Scindia replied, that he had already settled the Conditions, and could not now in Honour think of adding more. It is true that a private Promise had been made to Scindia, of ceding to him Broach, and the Share of its Purgunnabs conquered from the Nabob; yet he could not but well know that the Performance of this Article could be no Way effectually secured by him, but by the very Means he rejected, the Detention of our Army as Hostages.

In the little while Mr. Holmes was at Scindia's Durbar, he had an Opportunity of observing, that Scindia concerted and determined on all Affairs of Importance; which were only referred to Nannah for the necessary Forms of Office, the Sicca being affixed of course to every Paper or Dispatch that Scindia had once passed; and that Holcar, though treated with all external Marks of Respect by Scindia, as the head Subedar of the Empire, was entirely at his Disposal. The Business of the Treaty being concluded, Madjee Scindia took Advantage of the Stipulation we made for Hostages to be delivered us in Exchange for those we put into his Hands, to send a Person hither, whom he has desired me to consider as a confidential Minister: He even offered to send Rona Cawn, his chief Confidant and Favourite, whom he treats as a Brother, and is respected next to himself in his (Scindia's) Durbar. In conversing concerning the Discipline and Manœuvres of our Troops, he whispered Mr. Sibbald, that he hoped one Day to see them and our Forces acting together. Understanding that Mr. Holmes was one of my Family, he charged him with the most friendly Assurances, and seemed studious to give him every Mark of his Confidence. Mr. Farmer is still kept with Madjee Scindia, who behaves perfectly well to him; and does not allow Nannah to have any Intercourse with Mr. Farmer, but through him. I must not omit to mention too, as the most convincing Instance of Madjee Scindia's good Disposition towards us, that on the first Proposal on our Part, for inserting in the Convention an Article to exclude the French from all Protection and Countenance in the Maratta Empire, he admitted it, and supported it against Nannah.

These are Circumstances well known to Mr. Carnac, and perhaps to Mr. Draper too: I have however been at the Pains to collect them, as they have been communicated to me in Conversation, and as they do not appear on any public Record; owing to the Confusion which naturally attended such a State of Things as our Army was in while the Treaty lasted, and to the sudden Departure of Mr. Farmer, the Committee's Secretary.

The Lead that Scindia has taken in the Administration, and the Condition to which he has reduced Nannah to be no more than a Creature of his, were never thoroughly known, till the Facts discovered themselves on this Occasion; yet they are to be traced in Mr. Molyn's and Mr. Lewis's Advices, ever since the Revolution effected by Madjee Scindia's Means in June last, when Nannah fled to him.

It was only a few Days after that Event, that Holcar obliged Moraba to deliver to him the Insignia of Office, which he sent to Scindia, who constituted Nannah Minister, by delivering them to him. It was Scindia who seized Moraba and Butcheba Prondar, and afterwards confined them: It was he who confined Holcar's Duan, and appointed him another, by whose Means Holcar has ever since been a mere Puppet, at Madjee Scindia's Disposal: He too removed Saccaram Bappoo from the Administration of Affairs, and made him Prisoner in his own Houle: Hurry Punt's Resignation of the Command of the Troops, seems to have been in Compliance with Madjee Scindia's Pretensions to the Office of Suray Putty, which he demanded at the same Time as he insisted on the Cession of Ahmednagur and Ashur. Whether that important Office has been ever conferred on him in Form, I do not learn; but being at the Head of his own and Holcar's Forces (the best in the Empire) he has in Fact the Command of the whole Army: He accordingly treats Hurry Punt quite in the Stile of a Dependant; and ridiculed him to his Face, before Mr. Holmes, for his ill Success in his Campaign against Colonel Keating in Guzerat.

The several Proposals for a Settlement of the Government among the Chiefs at Tellowgaum, since the Return of our Army, confirm this Representation of the uncontrolled Power of Scindia. In every Change, still Madjee Scindia has appeared supreme; and I have Advice under the 11th Instant, that the Arrangements are actually made at last in the following Manner:

Madarow Narrain, Peshwa,

Sewajee Badjerow, Ragoba's Son, Naib.

Scindia and Holcar to act in the Name of Sewajee Badjerow.

Ragoba relinquishes the Government, and is to have a Jaghire, and reside at J.M. This he is to signify in Writing to all the Powers in India.

Nannah and Saccaram to conduct the Government as Ministers, and derive their Authority from Scindia and Holcar.

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

The above Settlement was passed in Writing. All the Maratta Officers were assembled, and informed, that this must be regarded as a conclusive Settlement; and any Attempt to oppose it would be considered as Treachery against the State. The usual Rejoicings on such Occasions were observed.

Madjee Scindia's Disposition towards us, and Aversion to the French, have in like Manner appeared in various Instances, since the Period of the June Revolution; and I cannot help feeling Respect for the Abilities of a Man, who has thus persisted in a Point, which he has, ^{at the time} thought it good Policy to endeavour to attain—a Connection and Alliance with our Nation, in spite of all the Disappointments he must have met with, from the Circumstance of our not understanding his Advances.

Upon Mr. Molyn's first Application for Madjee Scindia's Passports for the Bengal Troops, he sent them without I lesitation, and forwarded Duplicates from himself to his Officers. Only Two Days after, upon Receipt of my Letters on the same Subject, he forwarded to me another Copy of these Passports, and Orders to his Officers; and it is remarkable, that at this very Time Mr. Molyn was in vain soliciting the same Mark of Confidence from Moraba, then at the Head of Administration. These Passports seem to have been given with Sincerity, and to have had their Effect; since, by Colonel Goddard's Letter of the 26th November, it appears, that in consequence of them he had passed peaceably through a Province of Madjee Scindia's. At that Time (26th November) Madjee Scindia's Officer had indeed joined Ballajee to obstruct his (Colonel Goddard's) March; but the mere Date of Colonel Goddard's Letter sufficiently accounts for this. A few Days after the Grant of Madjee Scindia's Passports the Revolution was brought about; and the very Day following Tookajee Holcar sent Mr. Mostyn his Passports likewise. On the 1st July, Lubin left Poona, and has never since returned. This was a Point Mr. Mostyn had been ineffectually labouring to carry in both the preceding Administrations of Nannah and Moraba. Nannah, together with Scindia, sent early Invitations to Mr. Mostyn to come to the Durbar; and Mr. Mostyn was told by Madarow Jadarow, in Answer to his Enquiries concerning the Business Nannah wanted to speak to him on, that it was for the Increase of our Friendship. These Overtures having failed, Madjee Scindia made Two to Mr. Mostyn, directly and separately from himself; offering to settle our Disputes with the Durbar before Mr. Mostyn left Poona in August last: These were both rejected; and Madjee Scindia, in Allusion to these, told Mr. Holmes in Camp, that he was the Man to whom Mr. Mostyn should have applied; that he had twice made Advances, but had as often been slighted. After Mr. Mostyn's Departure, Madjee Scindia made the same Offers to Mr. Lewis; and then, on Mr. Lewis's declining to visit him, he determined on sending an Agent to Bombay. He did accordingly send this very Appajee Sabajee, his present Agent; who, I suppose, finding Reason to think that our Measures were already taken with Ragoba, too much beyond his Master's Views, confined himself to general Professions of Friendship, on the Part of Madjee Scindia, without opening himself further.

Since his Return hither with an Army, such general Professions have been his chief Topic; but he has at the same Time given me to understand, that Gunnis Hurry and he are by no Means employed on the same Errand; and has even desired to be separated from him, in order that his Intercourse with me may not be subject to the Enquiries and Observations of Nannah's Agent. He has even intimated, in pretty direct Terms, that his Master interests himself but little in the Answer that may be given to Gunnis Hurry, with regard to the Cessions stipulated for the Poona Circar; and that he (Appajee) had the particular Interests of Madjee Scindia only in his Charge. He has talked loosely of Alliances between Madjee Scindia and the Company, for reducing the Power of the Nizam and Hyder; still demands the Cession of Broach, stipulated for Madjee Scindia, but is by no Means pressing on the Subject; and in short, plainly indicates his Views on the Part of his Master, which however (as in the present Circumstances we seem to have more immediate Occasion for him than he for us) he does not seem disposed to explain particularly, without some further Opening on our Part. Madjee Scindia's own Letters, which I now lay before you, are written in a Strain entirely conformable to this Language of his Minister: In the first of them it is observable, that he takes no Notice of the Return of the Bengal Troops; and in the last, though this is demanded, yet it appears from Colonel Goddard's last Letter, that he had not then received the Order of the Poona Committee, directing him to return, notwithstanding the same had been delivered to Madjee Scindia himself to be forwarded to him, Three Days before a Letter of their own, which Colonel Goddard acknowledged the Receipt of.

From this State of past and present Circumstances, I think I am warranted in the following Conclusions:

1st. That the actual Administration of the Affairs of the Maratta Empire is at Madjee Scindia's Disposal, and that Nannah, the great Enemy of the English, is reduced, for the present at least, to be no more than the Tool of Madjee Scindia's Power.

2d. That Madjee Scindia is not only well inclined to us, preferable to the French, but is earnest for some closer Connection and Alliance with us.

3d. That the Accomplishment of the Terms of the Convention, as far as they concern the Poona Circar, is not at all the Object of his Views, since he has in fact made it optional with us, whether to comply with them or not.

4th. That the Performance even of the private Article in his (Madjee Scindia's) Favour, is not the first Object of his Consideration; but that this, as well as the Cessions stipulated for by the Poona Circar,

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

Circar, is chiefly intended by him as a Fund to pay us from, in any Alliance he may enter into with us, without any real Expence to himself.

5th. That independant of his Views to an Alliance with us, he has some Motives of Policy, which render him unwilling that our Power and Possessions on this Coast should be very materially reduced.

6th. That it is for the Interest of the Company, and necessary to their Purpose at this Settlement, to inform ourselves forthwith what Madjee Scindia's real Intentions are; and to take such Measures as we consistently can, in concert with him, for the Exclusion of Nannah from all real and effectual Power in the Administration of the Maratta Empire.

I have said that independent of Madjee Scindia's Views to an Alliance with us, I conclude he has some Motives of Policy, which render him unwilling that our Power and Possessions on this Coast should be very materially reduced. I ground this Opinion on that very striking Circumstance, his obtaining for our Army Permission to depart, without any adequate Security for the promised Cessions to the Poona Circar, or to himself. This was too obvious to have escaped his Notice; and lest it should be supposed to have passed through Negligence, the Proposal for detaining the whole Army as Hostages, together with the further Cessions of Surat and Fort Victoria, was actually made to Madjee Scindia by Nannah. Whatever these Views of Madjee Scindia may be, they cannot yet be penetrated with Certainty, and can be only known by his future Intimation or Conduct. I will however venture to give my present Ideas of what may be probably the Motives for the great Attention he has paid to us and our Interest.

The intestine Divisions among the Maratta Chiefs has effected what civil Dissensions long continued have never failed to bring about in every Age and Country—the Overthrow of all Power and Dominion but that of the Sword: Of this Madjee Scindia is now in Possession, and we may be assured, does not mean to part with it; his great Object therefore must be to secure it, and our's not to let slip the present Crisis, while our Alliance is fought, and worth his Purchase. His Intention must be either to remove the Seat of his Government to Poona, or to establish some Kind of Power there subordinate to his own.

The First he must find very dangerous; the Chiefs, whose Jaghires lie nearest Poona, will be naturally alarmed at the Thought of seeing the Peshwa Domains united to the other Possessions of a Power already so formidable as Madjee Scindia; who by his Accession will be able to crush the Independence they have been aiming at in common with the other Jaghierdars of the Empire. The Nizam and Hyder, whose Dominions bound the Peshwa Domains to the Southward and Eastward, Madjee Scindia knows, will be always ready to support the discontented Chiefs in the Southern Part of the Empire; where the Bramins must still likewise be of Consequence and Weight, from their Riches, their Intrigues, their Experience in the Revenues, and all other Departments of Government, and in a Word, from that sacred Character which protects them at all Times from open Violence, better than any other Set of Men. These Difficulties are not relieved by the State of Things in Scindia's own Jaghire. The King taking the Advantage of the Absence of him and Holcar, is I find still making some Progress, and I am informed has lately reduced some of the Holcars to his Obedience. Moodajee Bouncello is said to have Views to the Rajahship, and there are Conjectures abroad of his being encouraged in them by an Alliance with the Governor General and Council. Both the King and the Bouncello, who are already formidable to Madjee Scindia, from the Situation of their Dominions with respect to his, must be considered by him as the most dangerous Enemies he can ever have, if they are aided by us, and undertake to oppose him in the Pursuits of his Ambition.

The Establishment of some kind of Power subordinate to his own, seems a Policy more suitable to Scindia's Circumstances, and more agreeable to the Conduct he has hitherto observed. The Difficulty in this Case lies in the Choice he shall make, and on the Means to be employed whenever he may chuse to secure his Dependence. Nannah has been chosen, and hitherto employed by Madjee Scindia in the Character of Duan: His Abilities, long Experience in Business, and above all, the Appearance of Moderation displayed in the Continuance of a Bramin Minister, who has so long filled the first Civil Department of the State, justify this Choice. But the same Qualifications added to Nannah's Riches, will doubtless render him dangerous to Scindia, whenever he shall be obliged to retire for any Time to his own Dominions. Tookajee Holcar has been long desirous of returning to Madjee Scindia has no less urgent Inducements to re-visit Eugene; and the Distance they will be at when there, and the Power Nannah, if he continues in the Management of the Peshwa Domains, must have in their Absence, will soon put him in a Condition to assert again his Independence. Madjee Scindia is certainly not ignorant of Nannah's Connections with Lubin, and the Promises of Assistance he has received from that Quarter: It was one of the first Measures of Scindia's Government to send away this Man, no less dangerous perhaps in his Estimation to him than to us: He must know that a very short Time may now bring Nannah the Succours that have been promised him; and that should they arrive in his (Scindia's) Absence, his Hopes of retaining this aspiring Rival in his Dependence is at an End. He may perhaps, in case of such an Event, foresee the Probability of the Restoration of the Peshwa Power in the Person of Nannah; and fancy the Jaghierdars of Eugene and again reduced to the State of Submission in which they were held by Badjerow.

Thus circumstanced, what may we suppose Madjee Scindia's Views with regard to us, and what the Principles on which he acts in his Endeavours to conciliate our Friendship, and secure to us our Possessions on this Coast?

Madjee must have observed in our Conduct with regard to Ragoba, since our first Alliance with him, Marks of the most hearty and honourable Attachment to his Cause. He will no Doubt have remarked, that though Ragoba's Affairs when in a prosperous Course were suddenly ruined by some Disagreement among ourselves, which perhaps he cannot very easily explain; though the Engagements of this Settlement were given up and departed from by the Governor General and Council, and the most declared Partiality shewn to Ragoba's avowed Enemies, so far as to proceed even to Orders for the Surrender of his Person into their Hands: He will, I say, no Doubt ~~have~~ marked, that the good Faith and Honour of an Englishman is such, that under all Difficulties, he cannot determine to withdraw Protection from the Man to whom it has been once solemnly promised: He will have seen that this Principle of good Faith has at last prevailed over all temporary Opposition; that we have again taken Ragoba by the Hand; conducted him with our own Forces alone almost to Poona; and have at last only quitted him, when it was evident that there was not one Chief in the Empire who would draw a Sword for him; and after he had concluded Terms for himself with this very Madjee Scindia.

He finds that throughout the whole Period in which we have been Actors in the Maratta Scene, our Objects in point of Acquisition have been the same—a Territory on the Sea Coast and in the Neighbourhood of Bombay, nearly equal to our Expences. He has seen this Scheme of Acquisition abided by under all Changes, with little Variation; and this must strike him the more forcibly, as he must be well informed, that at the Time of the Conclusion of the Treaty of Poorunder, the Plan might have been considerably enlarged, if that had ever been the Intention: Our present Line of Territory, which we have never thought of extending beyond the Gauts, cannot be an Object of Jealousy to Madjee Scindia; on the contrary, it may be highly useful to him, and that whether we are engaged to him by Alliance or not.

On account of the well-founded Jealousy he knows we entertain of Nannah and his Connections with the French, he may be assured, that an Union can never take place between us and Nannah: Whilst our Possessions and Forces continue such as they now are, we are both considerable and near enough to keep Nannah in constant Apprehension; and yet the Barrier of the Gauts, between us and him will always be sufficient to restrain us, unless we act in Conjunction with some Power above the Gauts, who can secure us the Passes, and Subsistence. Madjee Scindia knows too, that while we continue able to resist the Attempts of the French to throw a Body of Troops into the Maratta Empire, we can never sit still and suffer it. The Support of our Power therefore on the Coast is his greatest Security against Nannah's Attempts for Independence; the Success of which would be almost insured, if supported by a respectable Body of European Forces: Scindia has the more Reason to turn his Thoughts to this Point, (the Exclusion of the French) since a Connection with them appears to have been so far the Plan of Policy adopted by the Bramins, that Moraba when in Power actually proceeded on it, no less than Nannah, by whom it seems to have been first formed: And it is remarkable, that much of the Intelligence Mr. Mostyn received on this Subject, which was found very exact, was conveyed to him through Persons closely connected with Scindia.

Should Madjee Scindia turn his Thoughts to an Alliance with us (as I have no Doubt he has done already) he has Advantages in such a Connection, far beyond any other Indian Power, to induce him to court it. The Cession of a Territory of no Consequence or Value to him is the easy Price he will have to pay for our Friendship; which Territory will serve him as a Frontier against the Introduction of an European Force, engaged to other Interests than to his; be a Curb upon his Delegate of the Peshwa Domains to secure his Dependence; and will thus enable him to give his Attention and Presence to his Northern Dominions, in the Proportion they demand. The Rajah of Berar and the Shaw Allum, situated between our Bengal Possessions and Madjee Scindia's Country, will be content to leave him in Tranquillity, if they find us seriously bent to prevent its being disturbed. As Madjee Scindia's Possessions border nowhere on ours, he has less to fear from our Encroachments than any Prince of Hindostan with whom we are at present connected. Or if the Peshwa Domains are already to be considered as his, the Mountains form a Separation between us and him, that we never can be supposed to carry our Schemes of territorial Possession beyond them.

Thus the Opinion he may justly have formed of the good Faith of our Nation; the Moderation of our Views in point of Territory; his own Causes of Jealousy of the Schemes of Nannah, for rendering himself independant, and of his Connection with the French for this Purpose; our mutual Interest to guard against both, and, above all, to prevent the Introduction of French Troops into the Maratta Empire: The Support our Possessions on this Coast will afford to his Authority at the Poona Durbar; the little Value to him of the Countries we seek to acquire; the Security an Alliance with us will afford him from his most formidable Neighbours; the Obstacles that must forever prevent us from encroaching on his Dominions or Sovereignty; these all seem just and concurring Arguments to dispose him to an Alliance with the Company, advantageous to both Parties.

The Motives on our Side are for the most Part so connected with his, that they seem to be almost the same; yet they are further enforced on us by the particular Situation we are placed in by the Convention of Worgaum; a Convention forced on those who had no Authority to accept of the Terms insisted on, and who declared so in the most positive Expressions, which were explained verbatim from Messieurs Carnac and Egerton's own Letter before Nannah, in open Durbar. There can be no Hesitation in declaring such a Convention invalid; yet we are not to forget (as I have before

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

(as remarked) that we are indebted to Madjee Scindia for our having this still left in our Power, i.e., the whole Maratta Army, and we, must be equally struck with this Fact. I do therefore think in National Honour concerned in finding some Way of acquitting ourselves to him. 'Tis impossible to proceed on such rotten Ground as that of renouncing both the Engagements with the Durbar and with him, who enabled us to reject them: It would be breaking Faith with the whole World at once, with our Friends, and with our Enemies. The Persons who promised Madjee Scindia the Cession of Broach, and engaged for those to the Poona Circar, were the same, and their oaths in both Cases equally incompetent: But a great Distinction ought to be made between the obligation we are under to Nanah and to Scindia: The first could and would have stripped us of every Thing; the latter, by relieving us from the hard Terms of the former, did in fact give a valuable Consideration for what was promised to him. I flatter myself it will not be impossible to satisfy him, without parting with any of our present Possessions; but at any rate, I think we must shew a real Desire of giving him Satisfaction: For this Purpose, and to try further what the real Extent of his Views in relation to us is, it will be necessary to enter into Negotiation with him, and to open ourselves to him in some Degree confidentially.

I cannot think that any new Powers are wanting for proceeding in this immediately, as the Necessity and Emergency of the Occasion demands. When the Governor General and Council gave their sanction for our Treaty with Ragoba, and for our supporting his Cause by Arms, in that Sanction was necessarily included every Power which the Cause of Events might call for. The Governor General and Council have a Right, as I said before, to expect every Exertion on our Part, and would fitly reproach us were we timidly to withdraw ourselves from the Responsibility that belongs to our Nation and the present Crisis.

There is a Passage in the Governor General and Council's Letter which, though designed for another Occasion, seems perfectly applicable to the present Circumstances. They tell us that they do not mean to preclude us from gaining any Advantages we can by Negotiation, that a Change in the Administration at Poona will probably afford Opportunity for obtaining such Advantages; and they conclude in these remarkable Words: "And we leave it to you to pursue such a Policy as "Circumstances require, independant of any particular Interests of Ragoba, whom you must regard, "in the great political Objects of our Government, as simply meriting our Consideration, and not as "necessarily connected or blended with it."

We find a Change of Administration, or at least of the Power on which the Administration depends, has actually taken place at Poona, which gives very favourable Hopes of our being able to attain at least One, and that the First Object of our Policy, the Exclusion of the French from the Connections they were forming by Nanah's Means in the Maratta Court. Ragoba has already relieved us from the Care of his Interests, and left us nothing to attend to but our own, which require the Exertion of our best Talents, but depend no less on seizing the present Moment. With such Prospects before us, and such a general Instruction for our Conduct, can we doubt whether to take an active Part in the very Line that Instruction has marked out to us?

The Governor General and Council, in their Letter of the 17th August, lay us under One Restraint, which I make no Doubt we shall agree in thinking it no less to be observed in our present Circumstances, than in those for which it was originally designed: I mean, that in any Engagement or Treaty of Alliance we may enter into with Madjee Scindia, or any other Power, we are to avoid all Stipulations of a Tendency hostile to the Rajah of Berar. I mention this now for this Reason only, that the Governor and Council may observe the Caution with which we determine to act in every Case wherein their Designs can be foreseen. Our Object is to make what new Friends we can, and to avoid all Enemies that are not unavoidable.

Madjee Scindia is undoubtedly the Person from whose Friendship we have the most to hope, and whose Ennemy is most to be apprehended. Could he therefore be determined to an Alliance with us, that would answer the Purposes of the Company, and the Nation on this Side of India, by excluding the French effectually and permanently by providing against their chief Abettor Nanah's recovering his former Power; by securing to us the Territory we are deficient in to defray the Expences of this Settlement, or at least preserving that we at present hold: Could these Purposes be effected, I shall not scruple, if there be any Risk of losing the Opportunity by waiting to refer the Matter to Bengal, to give my hearty Concurrence to the necessary Measures, without delaying further Time in Expectation of other Powers than we are now furnished with. But I do not mean by this, that I wish any thing to be concluded precipitately; all I propose to do at present is, to give Madjee Scindia an Opportunity of explaining himself further, and put his Disposition in our Favour to one more Test; which I think will be so decisive, that if he comply with our Wishes in this Respect we may be satisfied that I have not gone too far in any Hopes I have entertained from him.

In the first Place, however, as an Instance of the different Light in which we regard the Stipulations made in Behalf of the Poona Circar, and the Return to be made for Madjee Scindia's friendly Offices, I would propose, that the Notes given among Madjee Scindia's Officers, as Durbar Charges, should be immediately taken up and discharged; which Amount I find to be R¹ 41,000. This is absolutely necessary, not only as a Mark of our Regard to Scindia himself, but as a Failure in this Article would make every Man of his Durbar our Ennemy, at a Time when the least important of them might be able to do us some Injury.

I next propose to write to Madjee Scindia, to acknowledge the Instances we have received of his Friendship; to make him very frank Offers of a Return on our Part; to hint generally to him, that

we wish much to fall on some Expedient to satisfy his Expectations from us; to explain to him that our Army, when it passed the Gauts, had no Designs inimical to him; that on the contrary, we have Reason to think, that he wished us to undertake Ragoba's Cause; that we are therefore well pleased to have left Ragoba in his (Madjee Scindia's) Hands, as our common Friend, though we never could have consented to put him into those of Nanah, whatever Benefit we might have derived from such a Bargain with him; to acquaint him, that Nanah's Views with regard to the French, and the Preference shewn by him of them to us (the ancient Allies of the Maratta State) had given us much just Cause of Alarm; that his (Madjee Scindia's) Professions on this Subject have afforded ~~great~~ Satisfaction; and that we particularly confide in his Authority over Nanah, which we are now informed of, and heartily rejoice at: To inform him of the Arrival of our Bengal Army at Brampore; to remind him that he long ago granted his Dustucks for their friendly Passage through his Territories; and that his Credit as well as ours is now concerned that they should not turn back, after coming so far; that they are coming hither for the Protection of our Settlement against the French; and that on the Terms we would have him esteem himself to be with us, we hope he will consider that they may be serviceable to him, as well as to us; to desire he will therefore now grant his Dustucks and Letters to Futtu Sing, and the other Friends he may have between Brampore and Surat, to permit our Army to pass as Friends through their Countries; supplying them with Provisions and other Necessaries on their March, for which they will punctually pay. I think it may be proper too to propose to him to send One thousand of his Horse to meet our Army, and accompany them to Surat, advising him, that the Object of this Request is, that the World may be Witnesses of the Friendship that subsists between us, which, after such an Instance, can never afterwards be departed from on our Side. I shall at the same Time congratulate him on the Grant of Brampore, which has lately been added to his Jaghire; and inform him, that I have written to the Commander of the Bengal Army, to acquaint him of our Hopes from his (Madjee Scindia's) Friendship, and ordering him to consider the Friends of Madjee Scindia as our's. With this Letter, if approved by the Committee, I shall send back his own Agent, whom I flatter myself I can make useful to us, in our Transactions with his Master.

While we are waiting for his Answer, I think it will be absolutely necessary, in order to be prepared for every Event, that we direct the Field Train and Equipage of the Troops to be completed, and held in Readiness for Service at the shortest Notice: For should Madjee Scindia refuse his Concurrence to the March of the Bengal Army to Surat, I am of Opinion that we must send a strong Detachment into the Field, near Surat or Broach, to act in concert with Colonel Goddard, and to favour his March towards one or other of those Places; on the Success of which every thing now depends, and all must be risked to ensure it.

A Connection with the Guicawars offers another Resource, which in the present Posture of our Affairs is by no Means to be neglected. My Sentiments with regard to this Family appear at large on our Proceedings under the 10th October 1777: Their near Neighbourhood to our Northern Possessions, their Discontents at the Treatment they have received from the Poona Government, the very advantageous Offers formerly made by Futtu Sing for an Alliance with the Company, the Command of the Country through which Colonel Goddard's March lies, their actual Force, and the Distance from the Center of the Empire, which in these Times must render them proportionably more independent, point them out to us as Allies of the first Consequence; yet it must be acknowledged that the Divisions in their Family render it less considerable, and our Dependance on it therefore must be less than it otherwise might be. It is well known that Futtu Sing is the Party favoured by the Poona Ministers, as Govind Row has been that which has been hitherto most strictly attached to Ragoba's Interest: Madjee Scindia is said too to favour Futtu Sing: Our Ground therefore in this Quarter should be tried with Caution: A Passage for Colonel Goddard's Army may however be demanded from both, and both may be founded with regard to their Disposition towards an Alliance with the Company. Govind Row, on our late Motions in Favour of Ragoba, made some Overtures to me; but, considering Futtu Sing's supposed Connection with Scindia, to whom our present Views must be principally turned, as well as from a political Regard to his greater Authority at this Moment in the Territories dependant on his Family, his should certainly be the Party to which we should at present rather incline.

I have only One or Two Reflections more to make on the present State of Affairs with the Marattas.

The Schemes of the Governor General and Council with regard to the Rajah of Berar being yet unknown to us, it is impossible for us to found any Measures on them: Yet I cannot help now observing, that if, as has been conjectured, the Gentlemen of that Presidency have entertained Thoughts of restoring in his Person the ancient Rajah Government, the Attempt seems likely to be attended with no small Difficulty. The Powers who are now in Possession of the Peshwa Domains, together with all the Jaghierdars, however disunited among themselves, would probably concur in opposing Moodajee Bouncello, who, from every thing I have been able to learn, has for some Time taken no Part in these Western Broils, nor appears to have any Party among the leading Men of this Part of the Empire. And I would wish to submit to the Governor General and Council, whether we might not better answer our Views by supporting a formidable Chief like Madjee Scindia, who has already acquired the actual Possession of the Peshwa's Domains, with all the Authority of the Office, who is backed with the Resources of his own Jaghire, and has the Person of Ragoba at his Disposal to give a Colour of lawful Authority to that he has assumed, than by attempting to model the whole State

State anew, and to place the Rule of it in Hands of our own chusing; a Labour that is perhaps too arduous, and the Success certainly dubious.

The same Objection lies against our acting upon the Orders of the Honourable Secret Committee for the Restoration of Ragoba to the Peshwaship. However favourite an Object this was with me in 1775, Circumstances are now entirely changed; and Councils must be changed with them: At that Time the Jaghierdars kept aloof from the Quarrel. Madjee Scindia who is now the supreme Head of the Poona Government was making Tenders of his Services from Eugene to Ragoba, when at the Head of a formidable Army; and would have been content with some Accessions of Jagheer, and some honorary Distinctions. Even the Officers in whom the Ministers were forced to put their greatest Confidence, were wavering, and thinking more of securing themselves than of supporting the Party they were still engaged in. Since that Time, while Ragoba has been kept inactive, a new State of Things has taken place. Even the Terms of the Government are now hardly left, and the Command of the Army is the only real Title to the Empire. He who might then have called out at least Half the Forces of the State, has not found Five hundred Horse to assist him in the late Attempt we have made in his Favour. He has been undeceived, as well as we; and has found all, to which the Splendor of his former Fortune and the Glory of his Name can entitle him, is no more than to become the Pensioner of Madjee Scindia, and the Cloak of his Ambition.

After stating thus fully my Sentiments on the present Posture of Affairs, it only remains for me to propose to the Committee that we come to the following Resolutions:

1st. That the Assistance of Military Officers (mentioned in the First Part of this Minute) be requested from Bengal.

On this, however, it is proper to remark, that in case of Colonel Goddard's making good his Way to Surat, our Wants on this Respect will most probably be supplied.

2dly. That Colonel Goddard be written to in Terms proposed above.

3dly. That the Convention concluded by Messieurs Carnae and Egerton at Worgom was invalid; and that the public Faith cannot be considered as pledged, after their express Declaration to the Maratta Durbar, that they had no Powers to accede to the Terms insisted on from them. That the general Answer however given to Nanah's Agent, is all that is necessary to be communicated on this Subject, for the present to him.

4thly. That Madjee Scindia's good Offices were of the greatest Service in the Negotiation of the Terms of the Convention, and particularly in procuring Permission for the immediate Return of the Army: That he is in consequence entitled to every Mark of Regard we can consistently shew him; and that it will be necessary to find some Means of expressing the Sense we entertain of his Attention to the Interest of the Company, in some Degree equivalent to the Cession of the Mogul Share of the Broach Purgannah.

5thly. That the Notes passed at Worgon to the several Offices of Madjee Scindia's Durbar as Gratification to them, amounting to Rupees, 41,000, out of Respect to Madjee Scindia, as well as out of Motives of good Policy, ought to be forthwith taken up and discharged.

6thly. That we have good Ground to hope, that Madjee Scindia is well-disposed towards the Company, and will be willing to enter into a Connection with us, advantageous to the Company.

7thly. That the grand Objects to be kept in View in forming of such a Connection, are,

1st. To exclude the French effectually and permanently from all Connection, whether commercial or political, in the Affairs of the Maratta Empire, and with all Persons concerned in the Administration thereof.

2d. To exclude Nanah Furneze, if possible, from the Administration of the Poona Government: or if this cannot be, to unite with Madjee Scindia, for the Purpose of guarding against Nanah Furneze's acquiring any Sort of independant Authority in the Poona Government; and to obtain the best Security for the Company against such an Event.

3d. To endeavour to obtain for the Company such a Territory as may be sufficient for defraying the Expences of this Settlement, or at least to preserve that we at present hold.

8thly. That it is absolutely necessary to lose no Time in the Measures to be taken, as well to inform ourselves of Madjee Scindia's Intentions with regard to an Alliance with the Company, as to guard against the pernicious Designs of Nanah Furneze, and those of the French.

9thly. That in any Connection to be formed with Madjee Scindia, every Engagement that may have a Tendency hostile to the Raja of Berar be avoided.

10thly. That nothing be finally and conclusively settled in way of Alliance with Madjee Scindia, until we receive the Concurrence of the Governor General and Council; unless the several Points specified in the 7th Resolution can be satisfactorily provided for.

11thly. That the President write to Madjee Scindia to the Purpose proposed in the foregoing.

12thly. That the Chief of Broach be ordered to apply to Fatty Sing Guicawar, as likewise to Govind Row Guicawar, for their Passports and Dustucks, for the Passage of the Bengal Troops through their Country; and for their being supplied on their March with Provisions; for which the Commander will take Care that the Inhabitants are punctually paid. That the Chief of Broach make the same Professions of Peace and Amity to the Guicawars as those directed in the Instructions from the Governor General and Council to Colonel Leslie: And that he advise this Committee and Colonel Goddard without Delay of his Success.

13thly. That the Chief of Broach be likewise directed to sound with proper Caution, the Disposition

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

position of the Guicawars towards an Alliance with the Company of mutual Defence; and advise us of the Success we might expect, should we judge it expedient to make any Overtures for that Purpose.

14thly. That the Field Train and Equipage be completed, and held in Readiness for Service at the shortest Notice.

15thly. That a Gentleman well informed in the State of the Company's Affairs under this Presidency, and particularly instructed for this Occasion in the present political Circumstances of the Settlement, and in the Deligns of this Government, be immediately dispatched with our Advices to Bengal, in order to supply the Governor General and Council with such Information and Details of local Knowledge as they may require, or the Support of our present Plan may render necessary.

A true Copy.

Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Sec'y to the Select Comm^{ee}.

Extracts from the Consultations of the Select Committee of Bombay, relative to the President's Review of Maratta Affairs.

Friday, 19th February 1779.

At a Committee; P R E S E N T,

The Honourable William Hornby, Esquire, President and Governor,
John Carnac, and Daniel Draper, Esquires.

The President now lays before us, a Minute containing a Review of Maratta Affairs, and sundry Resolutions proposed by him in consequence.

This Minute having been attentively perused, the President, in conformity to the 15th of his proposed Resolutions, acquaints us, That he thinks Mr. George Horsley a Person every Way qualified to be sent to Bengal on the intended Service, and therefore nominates him for this Commission.

Mr. Draper thinks it is very unnecessary to send any Person to Bengal, with regard to the past Transactions to this Time, exclusive of the President's Minute, and therefore disapproves of it, both on Account of the Expences that will be incurred by such a Measure, and the Probability he thinks there is that the Governor General and Council will order an Enquiry to be made here into the late Transactions.

Mr. Carnac entirely concurs with the President, not only in the Propriety and Necessity of the Measure, but also in his Nomination of Mr. Horsley, whom he thinks perfectly qualified for so important a Commission.

Mr. Horsley is therefore appointed accordingly, and must hold himself in Readiness to proceed with the utmost Expedition, after our Dispatches and the Instructions to him are prepared, which the Secretary is ordered to get ready with all Speed.

Mr. Thomas Shotbolt is appointed to accompany Mr. Horsley to Bengal as his Assistant.
The further Consideration of the other proposed Resolutions is deferred.

Tuesday, 23d February 1779.

At a Committee; P R E S E N T,
As in the preceding One.

The President's Review of the Maratta Affairs being now re-perused, Mr. Draper, in the Course of reading, makes the following Observations:

With respect to what is advanced of the Motives for the late Expedition being pressed on us by the Governor General and Council and the Secret Committee, he persists in thinking that the Letter from the former of the 17th August, was conditional; and the Letter's depending on the Co-operation of the other Presidencies, which leaves us only to lament that it has been so prematurely undertaken.

With respect to the Requisition for a Colonel from Bengal, instead of Colonel Egerton and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn removed, Mr. Draper has no Objection, provided they are thought by the Governor General and Council unworthy of being continued; though he remarks, We have no Reason to expect Colonel Goddard soon.

With regard to the Major and 5 or 6 Captains, he could wish to consult the commanding Officer, either in the Committee or in Council. The great Difference in Emoluments ought to be considered, and likewise the Board consulted.

He

A P P E N D I X, N° 134.

He entirely concurs in the proposed Measures for facilitating the March of Colonel Goddard's Army; but those now appear unnecessary by his near Approach.

He approves the Governor's Answer in general about a Reference to the Governor General and Council respecting the Convention of Worgaum, though he makes a Reserve, in consequence of the Poona Committee having deputed Mr. Farmer, and afterwards made a Declaration also about Mr. Holmes's being sent with full Powers, or Carte Blanche, as declared by Colonels Egerton and Cockburn.

The Measures proposed for defending ourselves against the Marattas he approves.

The Reasons why a proper Retreat should have been made to or attempted from Worgaum to Bombay, he conceives are just.

Several Instances of Scindia's good Disposition towards us are quoted, but Mr. Draper declares he knows nothing regarding the Exclusion of the French but from the Sequel of the Treaty, except from private Conversation, since the Return of the Expedition.

Mr. Draper cannot enough lament that we have so lately become fully acquainted with Scindia's being the principal Person in Power, notwithstanding the Residence of Messrs. Moflyn and Lewis at Poona; and does not recollect hearing any Thing of his Agent's being sent here till since the Return of the Expedition.

The Six Conclusions appear plausible; but he does not approve the 4th, which appears to him to clash with the 5th.

He thinks the Conjectures about Scindia's Motives of Action should be submitted to the Governor General and Council, and that the Determination, as well respecting the Convention as the Point, whether we are indebted to Madjee Scindia, or not? for the Power of deciding on it, should also be referred to the Governor General and Council.

He remarks on the Argument about the Poona Committee having no Authority to treat. Why did they then invest Mr. Holmes with full Powers, and send Mr. Farmer making a subsequent Declaration to the Letter?

He thinks the Negotiation with Madjee Scindia may be commenced, provided nothing conclusive is done without the Governor General and Council's Approbation, and that it is put on that Footing on the Commencement, that they may not pretend to deceive them.

With respect to the Notes for Rupees 41,000 to Scindia's Durbar Officers, though he highly disapproves them as exorbitant, and never heard of them till the last Meeting of the Committee, he is sorry to say, that in our present Situation it seems necessary to discharge them.

The Proposals for the Letter to be written by the President to Madjee Scindia, appears in general proper; but he thinks that the Circumstance of 1000 Horse accompanying the Bengal Army had better be declined, and seems now to be totally unnecessary.

The Proposals for the Field Train and Equipage here being got in Readiness, Mr. Draper approves, but thinks that a Detachment being sent out to join the Bengal Army now, seems totally unnecessary.

He thinks the Guicawars may be founded, but with Caution, lest Scindia's Jealousy might be excited; and that the Remarks on the Governor General's supposed Scheme concerning Moodajee Buncello, ought to be submitted to them.

He concurs in Opinion with the President, that the Select Committee's late Orders regarding Rangoona, received the 8th Instant, cannot now prove useful.

The Question being then put on the several Resolutions proposed by the President, in the Order they stand in his Minute;

1st Resolution. Mr. Draper cannot concur in the First Resolution, because of Colonel Egerton's and Lieutenant Colonel Cockburn's present Situation; because Colonel Goddard may be soon expected; because of Lieutenant Colonel Hartley's late Promotion; and because he concludes, that in case of Emergency, we can more easily get a Field Officer from the Madras Troops, intended to be employed against Mahé.

Mr. Carnac and the President think the Necessity of this Resolution in a great Measure superseded by the rapid Approach of Lieutenant Colonel Goddard.

2d Resolution. Approved by Mr. Draper. Mr. Carnac and the President being of the same Opinion as on the foregoing.

3d Resolution. Mr. Draper is of Opinion the late Convention at Worgaun, concluded by Messrs. Carnac and Egerton, should be referred to the Governor General and Council.

Voted in the Affirmative by Mr. Carnac and the President.

4th Resolution. Mr. Draper is of Opinion appears proper; and agreed to by Mr. Carnac and the President.

5th Resolution. Mr. Draper acquiesces therein considering the Reasons above given; and agreed to by Mr. Carnac and the President.

6th Resolution. Mr. Draper is of Opinion, that we have some Ground to hope that Madjee Scindia is well disposed towards the Company, in consequence of the late Transactions, and that he may be willing to enter into a Connection with us on advantageous Terms.

Agreed to by Mr. Carnac and the President.

7th Resolution. Mr. Draper concurs with Mr. Carnac and the President, in thinking the Objects mentioned under this Article the grand ones to be kept in View.

8th Resolution. Mr. Draper concurs in, provided nothing definitive be done without the Sanction of Rep. VI. (U)

A P P E N D I X, N° 134, 135.

of the Governor General and Council, and that no great Expence be incurred by so doing, after the immense Sum already disbursed in support of Ragoba, and with the Reserve before expressed respecting the previous Declaration upon the Commencement of the Negotiation;—concurred in by Mr. Carnac and the President.

9th Resolution. Mr. Draper entirely concurs in this, as do Mr. Carnac and the President.

10th Resolution. Mr. Draper in his Remarks had already declared his Opinion regarding the former Part of this Resolution, and he thinks it will be Time enough to decide on the latter, when we find the several Points therein attended to can be obtained, and in the mean Time to apprise the Governor General and Council of them.

Agreed to by Mr. Carnac and the President.

11th Resolution. Mr. Draper agrees thereto, with the Reserve above noticed, regarding the Horse.

Agreed to by Mr. Carnac and the President, except what regards Colonel Goddard's Army, which is now become unnecessary by his near Approach; in which Mr. Draper concurs.

12th Resolution. Mr. Draper agrees thereto, provided it can be done in such a Manner as not to give Offence to Seindia, though not so necessary on Account of Colonel Goddard's Approach.

Mr. Carnac and the President are of Opinion the Measure therein proposed is not now necessary; in which Mr. Draper also concurs.

13th Resolution. Approved by Mr. Draper as Matters stand before, but now unnecessary.

Mr. Carnac and the President think the Measure should be suspended for the present.

14th Resolution. Unanimously agreed to.

15th Resolution. Not thought necessary by Mr. Draper, being of Opinion we ought to be very explicit in our Representations to the Governor General and Council by Letter, in consequence of the President's Minute of Review.

Mr. Carnac and the President continue in the Opinion and Resolution as they stand on the Minutes of our last Meeting.

A true Copy,
Edw^d Ravenscroft,
Secretary to the Select Committee.

A P P E N D I X, N° 135.

Letter from Governor Hornby to the Committee of Secrecy, dated 28th March 1779; enclosing Considerations on the State of Affairs at Bombay.

Honourable Sirs,

OUR Advices conveyed by this Vessel will inform you at large of all Occurrences of Moment up to this Time; but as we have come to no Resolutions with regard to the Measures necessary to be taken at this critical Juncture, the Letters from the Committee will still leave you unsatisfied on this Subject; which of all others I presume will be that you will be most solicitous about. My Thoughts have been much employed on it, and I now do myself the Honour of enclosing for your Information a Paper which is the Result of them. The Form is that in which I have prepared to bring the Matter before the Committee as soon as the Betsey is dispatched.

I have in that Paper given my Sentiments so fully, as well on the present Posture of Affairs, as on the Prospect before us, between this Time and the End of next October, that I have nothing to add here on those Subjects, and must beg Leave to refer you entirely to it. I flatter myself you will esteem the Measures I propose, such as are best adapted to remedy our present and future Difficulties, to provide for the Security and Prosperity of your Affairs under this Presidency, and to enable us to take the Part which may be hereafter assigned us by the Governor General and Council in their general Plan, with the greatest Prospect of affording effectual Aid in the Execution of it.

The Royal Admiral, which will sail about the 15th or 20th of next Month, will bring you Advice of the Resolutions of the Committee on my proposed Plan of Operations. As I have but just completed it, I thought it best not to detain the Betsey, that we might be relieved from all other Business before we took this into Consideration; for as it requires Dispatch, so the Importance of it renders it more necessary that our whole Attention should be confined to it.

On the other Hand, I was unwilling you should be left to suppose that no Plan had yet been thought of, and our future Resolutions bear an Appearance of Precipitation for want of your receiving by this Opportunity some Intelligence regarding them.

Thinking it a Duty I owe to my Honourable Employers to stay in India until Answers are received to this Letter, and being confident it will be pleasing to you, I intend doing it, though I was fully bent on leaving it this Season had the Ships arrived early; but now it is absolutely necessary that I should stay till Answers are received, for several Reasons, and I hope we shall be favoured with your Commands by the Way of Aleppo and Busforah, for the Conveyance of which I shall keep a Vessel at Busforah purposely to receive and bring them hither in November, so that I hope to receive them in all December next.

A P P E N D I X, N° 135.

Lieutenant Brice Hardie has been advanced Four hundred German Crowns should he have Occasion for them, of which he will render you an Account; he is a very trusty and good Officer.

I have the Honour to be,

Honourable Sirs,

Bombay,
the 28th March 1779.

Your most faithful and
obedient humble Servant,

William Hornby.

Select Consultations, 30th March 1779.

We have now before us that Information of the Views of the Governor General and Council in their projected Alliance with Moodajee Buncello; and in the State of which Colonel Goddard has left the Negotiation with him, the Want of which has hitherto rendered it impossible for us to come to any final Resolution, either with respect to the Steps necessary to be taken here, or with regard to the future Measures proper to be recommended and submitted to the Governor General and Council for their Approbation and Sanction.

It appears that the First Object of Mr. Elliott's Embassy to Nigapoor, was a defensive Alliance between the Company and Moodajee Buncello, for the mutual Security of their respective Possessions. The Governor General and Council charged with the Care of all the wide extended Territory of the Company have with great Judgment at the Commencement of a French War, turned their Thoughts thus early to the Cultivation of a Friendship with a Power, whose Dominions, situated between the Company's Provinces in Bengal, and on the Coast of Coromandel on one Side, and the Country under the Command of the Poona Ministers, and the Estates of the Nizam, on the other, render him best able to any Prince in Indostan, to afford us Assistance, and to check the Designs of our Enemies, at the same Time that his near Neighbourhood to the Settlements where the principal Force of the Company is maintained, must make him sensible of the Interest he himself has in a hearty Union with our Nation.

The Governor General and Council proceed from this First Measure planned for the general Safety, to point out to their Minister such particular Circumstances on the Affairs of the Presidency, and in those of the Poona Ministers and the Rajah of Berar, as relate to the more immediate Security of this Settlement, to the Exclusion of the French and their Faction from the Direction of the Administration at Poona, and to the Establishment of the Government there in the Hands of Persons well disposed to our Interest.

Mr. Elliott was for these Purposes authorized to enter into a Treaty with Moodajee Buncello, to unite with him in a direct and open War against the Poona Ministers, and to concert with him Plans for the Prosecution of it, for counteracting the Designs of the French, and for establishing him in the Dominions and Authority of the Ram Rajah.

These are the Measures Mr. Elliott was to pursue, under the following express Limitations and Provisos, that the Presidency of Bombay had neither entered into any new Engagement with Ragoba, nor with any other Party in the Maratta State, with which a Connection with Moodajee Buncello might clash; nor had concluded a Peace with the Poona Ministers: In either of which Cases Mr. Elliott was to suspend his Negotiations relative to the Establishment of Moodajee Buncello in the Ram Rajaship, to conform to the Bombay Measures, and to engage in no offensive Plan contrary to that of the Presidency of Bombay.

The Intentions of the Governor General and Council with regard to a defensive Alliance with Moodajee Buncello, were communicated to us by a Letter dated on the same Day as Mr. Elliott's Instructions (the 18th of July) and received here the 27th of August; but with regard to the Union projected between the Company and Moodajee Buncello, for the Removal of the French Faction from the Poona Durbar, and for the Establishment of Moodajee in the Rajaship, we have till this * Time remained uninformed. On the 27th of September we received from the Governor General and Council their Approbation of our Resolutions of the 21st July, and of the Measures we proposed taking in favour of Ragoba, without any Intimation of the Design in favour of Moodajee Buncello, excepting a Restriction from entering into any Engagements of a Tendency hostile to the Government of Berar, or contrary to such as Mr. Elliott might have apprized us of his having concluded with Moodajee Buncello.

Under these Circumstances our Treaty with Ragoba was concluded; and we heard no more of the Negotiation with Moodajee Buncello till the 18th of December, when the Governor General and Council's Letter of the 15th of October advised us in general, that the Rajah's Dispositions towards the Company were favourable, but that Mr. Elliott was dead; and that the Governor General and Council proposed to wait for Advices from the Rajah, before they appointed any other Person to succeed Mr. Elliott. We were at the same Time authorized to give Colonel Goddard Orders for proceeding forwards, at all Events, in Support of our Plan for reinstating Ragoba in the Regency, if we should judge this necessary.

* Copy of Mr. Elliott's Instructions was first received at Bombay the 17th March 1779.

On the 10th of January the Bengal Letter of the 23d of November came to Hand, referring to one of the 16th, which enclosed a Copy of Mr. Elliott's Instructions; advising of Colonel Goddard's being invested with full Powers to conclude a Treaty with Moodajee Buncello, on the Ground of those Instructions; and informing us that Colonel Goddard was no longer under our Orders, but in a very limited Degree; and what the Limitations might be, we remained utterly ignorant, as the Letter of the 16th of November, and Mr. Elliott's Instructions contained in it, had miscarried.

That of the 23d of November was forwarded to us by Colonel Goddard, accompanied by one from himself, which relieved us from much of the Anxiety we must have felt, while doubtful how far we might depend on the Support of the Forces under his Command: But the Colonel, aware of the Difficulties we might be thrown into by an Uncertainty with regard to this Point, assured us that he would assist with his Troops in any Measures we might have formed in Reliance on them, as far as we might deem consistent with the Negotiation he was then engaged in. And on Receipt of our Letters of the 6th and 19th of December, and on Moodajee Buncello's declining to proceed further in the Treaty proposed to him by the Governor General and Council, after he knew of the Bombay Troops being in the Field in favour of Ragoba, Colonel Goddard determined to march forward, without waiting to hear further from us.

I have entered into these Particulars in order to shew, that no over-weening Partiality for Measures of our own, prevented us from paying the Attention and Deference to the Views of the Governor General and Council, to which I shall always think them entitled. I make no Doubt the Governor General and Council had good Reason to reserve to us, with regard to fixing Moodajee Buncello in the Rajahship; which Reserve I conjecture was owing to the Preference they were willing to give to the Design formed here for the Re-establishment of Ragoba in the Regency, which is evidently the Principle on which Mr. Elliot's Instructions are framed. The Governor General and Council probably thought, that the Communication of another Scheme of their's, while our's was under Consideration, might serve only to embarrass us, and produce a Difference in our Councils, which ought not allow us to pursue our own Measures with the necessary Degree of Confidence and Vigour. I cannot refuse myself the acknowledging the Attention shewn throughout Mr. Elliot's Instructions to the Interest of this Presidency, and to the Support of that Credit and Influence of the Administration here, so necessary to the successful Management of the Affairs under our Charge. The liberal Spirit we have experienced from the Governor General and Council, as well in their Judgment of our Principles and Conduct, as in the Assistance they have offered this Settlement, is the best Encouragement to us to act with that Confidence in them, which, in Times of Difficulty, is necessary to support us through our Exertions beyond the mere Line of Duty.

It is impossible likewise to pass without noticing the great Merit of the Gentleman who has conducted the Bengal Troops with such Prudence and Dispatch to our Assistance at this critical Time. The Difficulties were very great which he must have been under, while charged with the Management of a most important Negotiation from the Government of Bengal, to which he must have found himself unable to reconcile the Measures already taken at this Presidency. The Delays and Doubts which the same Cause naturally occasioned in the Resolves of the Rajah, to whom he was deputed, rendered his Situation still more embarrassing, as they left him without any determinate Plan for his Conduct, but such as he himself might form for the Occasion. The pressing Exigency of the Company's Affairs on this Side, the united Opposition he had Reason to expect from the Maratta Chiefs, in the Course of a very long March through an Enemy's Country, the unsuccessful Event of our Expedition, the Stipulation for his Return, the Instances made him at the same Time, even on the Part of Moodajee Buncello, to induce him to it, and a Regard to the future Resolves of the Governor General and Council, were Circumstances that all claimed a Share in his Consideration, and rendered the Choice, whether to proceed on, to return, or to wait for further Orders, no easy one: His ready Determination of coming without Delay to our Aid, in my Opinion does the greatest Honour to his Judgment. Attention to the Interests of the Company, Prudence, Decision, and Disinterestedness, were equally conspicuous on this Occasion; and they are such as I think it becomes us to acknowledge to Colonel Goddard; and to point out, with the strongest Expressions of our Approbation, to the Governor General and Council, who, I flatter myself, will esteem Colonel Goddard's Conduct deserving the same Degree of Commendation; and permit us to request from them some distinguished Mark of their and our Sense of his Services.

The Knowledge of the State of the Negotiation entrusted to Colonel Goddard with the Rajah of Berar, and the Arrival of Bengal Troops, have made a very considerable Change in our Affairs.

It appears that the Disposition of Moodajee Buncello towards an Alliance with the Company, on the Terms proposed by the Governor General and Council, is such as to give us Reason to expect that he will be ready to conclude the proposed Treaty, as soon as ever he receives the Answers of the Governor General and Council to the Letters transmitted to them through Colonel Goddard. These, however, it is likely may not arrive near so soon as Colonel Goddard supposes they may be expected. The Impossibility of closing with the Rajah, while our Engagement with Ragoba subsisted, will of course be a Cause of Delay on the first Receipt of them. The Governor General and Council's Expectations of receiving the Particulars of our unsuccessful Expedition, together with Copies of the Convention concluded at Worgom, Information of the State of our Affairs subsequent to that Period, and Advice of Colonel Goddard's Arrival at Surat, will probably still prevent their coming to any final Resolution, with regard to the Alliance with Moodajee Buncello, for some Time longer. Yet there seems no Reason to doubt of their Determination to proceed with this Design, which they have represented